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Algeria

The Higher State Council named five members, assumed all powers normally belonging to the president, and is "empowered to take exceptional measures" as needed, Algiers television reported. The Army increased troop deployments to prevent fundamentalist outbursts, Paris international radio noted. A source "close to the government" said that if the Islamic Salvation Front "caused any trouble, a statement dissolving it would be issued within hours," the London newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported. Fundamentalist leader Hachani gave a "moderate" lecture and called for "calm," Algiers radio noted.

Arab-Israeli Talks

"An atmosphere of crisis" surrounds the Israeli-Palestinian talks, Jerusalem radio observed. Current discussions "failed to achieve any progress," the Syrian delegation head told Damascus radio. "No progress" was made in Israel's separate talks with Syria and Lebanon, the radio added; it also reported James Baker's talks with the Syrian and Lebanese delegation heads. The Israeli delegation gave an "Interim Agreement for Self-Rule in Gaza, Judaea, and Samaria" to the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations, details of which were published by 'AL HAMISHMAR. Palestinian delegation head 'Abd-al-Shafi, however, denied that Israel had discussed giving Palestinians self-rule, Sanaa Voice of Palestine asserted.

Israel

Seven West Bank residents were wounded by gunshots fired at a bus, Jerusalem television reported, adding that the attack "spoiled the atmosphere" at the Washington peace talks. Settlers responded by establishing five new outposts in the occupied territories, according to Jerusalem radio. Shamir said he is "determined to make additional progress" in the peace talks, Jerusalem television observed. Responding to reports of an Israeli plan for Palestinian self-rule, Sharon proposed "neutralizing" it by annexing all areas in the territories containing Jewish settlements, Jerusalem radio noted. U.S. satellite surveys showed that in 1991 settlement construction in the territories "was double, or perhaps more," than in 1990, according to HA'ARETZ.

Iraq

Saddam addressed military honorees; different versions of his speech were carried by Baghdad radio and INA. The foreign minister's message to UN chief Ghali on violations of Iraqi airspace by U.S. U-2 aircraft was reported by Baghdad radio. Opposition leaders rejected the government's terms for lifting the economic embargo against Iraqi Kurdistan, Tehran international radio reported.

Iran

IRNA stated that the Voice of America "distorted" the remarks of its first vice president on events in Algeria, claiming that "the West's concern over these developments is the main reason" behind this "distortion."

Syria

Government and Lebanese delegations signed a defense and security accord, Damascus radio observed.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Arab Spokesmen Evaluate Developments in Talks

Syrian on 13 Jan Map Dispute

JN1401185092 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Hisham Milhim report from Washington]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In a statement to Radio Monte Carlo, Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks, has said that in today's session, his delegation will present some substantial issues for discussion, adding that this will not be contained in an official agenda. He added that he will respond to what the head of the Israeli delegation said during the last session.

Al-'Allaf added that what is important now is to move beyond the stage of general issues and to hold discussion on practical implementation of the Security Council resolutions. He said: Israel is trying to evade this, and we insist on the need to address these resolutions.

Al-'Allaf expressed his delegation's resentment of Israel's decision to suspend the talks on Wednesday [15 January]. He said that the cosponsors of the peace conference should intervene to prevent these practices, which are obstructing the negotiations. He added that he raised this issue with Edward Djerejian, U.S. assistant secretary for Near Eastern Affairs. He added that he will meet with him again to keep him abreast of developments.

Al-'Allaf disclosed that during the last session, an argument took place between the heads of the two delegations in which maps were used to support their positions. When Yosi Ben-Aharon, head of the Israeli delegation, presented a Syrian map which did not identify Israel, al-'Allaf responded by producing an Israeli map showing Israel's borders encompassing large areas of the Arabian Peninsula. Ben-Aharon said that this was not an official map. [passage omitted]

Syria's al-'Allaf: No Progress

JN1401220192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2125 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Washington—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the peace talks, has stated that the second meeting of the third round of these talks, which was held this morning and lasted for four hours has, like the previous meetings in this round as well as the previous rounds, failed to achieve any progress.

In a statement to journalists outside the U.S. State Department, al-'Allaf said: The Israeli delegation is still raising issues that have nothing to do with the substance of the discussion or procedural or marginal issues. Furthermore, it still raises the issue of moving the venue for the talks from Washington.

He added: They still ask us why do we not respond to their queries which, we say, concern issues that will come as a result and the fruit of the peace process we are discussing. When we answer them this way, they raise issues which they have raised over and over before, and then return to the same questions.

He added: For our part, we today tried to present a method to guarantee progress by raising specific points to see which points we can agree on and which we disagree on. This was also difficult to achieve. The Israeli side stuck to its position over the few issues that were raised. It refused to accept the evidence and proof that support our viewpoint, which is based on the international resolutions and charters.

Al-'Allaf wondered: What result can be achieved in tomorrow's meeting, which will be the last in this round, the Israeli side having insisted on leaving Washington tomorrow.

Al-'Allaf added: What the Syrian Arab delegation requests is that the Israeli side should declare its readiness to implement the basic factors on which the current peace process is based: namely, Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace. What the Israeli side wants is to reap the fruits of the peace process without pledging to do what is required by the Security Council resolutions, on whose basis the peace process was arranged.

Jordan's al-Majali on First Session

JN1401193092 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Jan 92

[George Tarif report from Washington]

[Text] The first session of bilateral talks between the Jordanian and Israeli delegations along the Jordanian-Israeli track began in Washington today. The two delegations sat at a rectangular table in a separate room at the U.S. State Department. Journalists and photographers were allowed half a minute to take pictures of the session. Each delegation was made up of 11 members. The Jordanian delegation included two members of the Palestinian delegation—Nabil al-Ja'bari and 'Abd-al-Rahman Hamad—in accordance with the agreement reached yesterday.

At the end of the session, Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation, spoke to journalists:

[Begin al-Majali recording] This morning, we met for three hours with the Israeli delegation. We exchanged views on the agenda. We explained our viewpoint with regard to peace. They also explained their viewpoint. Between us there are still points of disagreement. We will discuss these points tomorrow. Tomorrow's meeting will be held at 0930 [1430 GMT]. [end recording]

Jordanian on Proposed Agendas

JN1301073392 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0510 GMT 15 Jan 92

[George Tarif report from Washington]

[Text] Four sessions within the second round of bilateral peace talks in Washington between the Arab delegations—Jordanian, Palestinian, Syrian, and Lebanese—and the Israeli teams were held yesterday. The Jordanian and Israeli delegations convened their first round of talks within the Jordanian-Israeli track during which they discussed the agendas of both sides.

To discover what took place during this first session, I conducted the following interview with Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, media spokesman for the Jordanian delegation:

[Begin recording] [Tarif] What happened during the first round of Jordanian-Israeli talks?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] The first round of Jordanian-Israeli talks was held on Tuesday morning. During that round, the participants exchanged their respective agenda proposals. Each side read to the other its proposed agenda. There were points of disagreement in the two agendas. It was agreed to complete discussion of the agendas the next day, Wednesday. The head of the Jordanian delegation also presented to the Israeli side Jordan's view of peace. All aspects of this view were discussed and the initial verbal Israeli response to this vision of peace was heard. Discussion is to be completed tomorrow morning.

[Tarif] Dr. Marwan, what are the most prominent points of the Jordanian and Israeli agendas?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] The Jordanian agenda tackled issues of interest to Jordan, which Jordan wants to discuss with the Israelis. These are issues related to water, Jordanian occupied territories, and refugees, as well as Israeli settlements, Jordan's view of Resolution 242, and the need for its implementation. The Israelis, however, presented an agenda related to a peace treaty with Jordan. They did not present the treaty, but wanted to confirm its inclusion on the agenda. Their agenda also was related to normalization measures prior to their proposed peace treaty.

[Tarif] What are the points of disagreement with regard to the work agenda?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] As I have said, there was no detailed discussion of the points of disagreement in today's session. You can see from the two agendas, however, that they differ in several respects. Therefore, one or more sessions will be held tomorrow to discuss these points.

[Tarif] Thank you, Dr. Marwan, for this interview.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Thank you. [end recording]

The Palestinian and Israeli delegations held a second session last night. Talking to journalists after the session, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi [head of the Palestinian delegation] said:

[Begin recording] We discussed substantive issues. We presented to the Israeli side memorandums on our vision of the transitional period—its dimensions and requirements. We also presented a memorandum on settlement and the acquisition of land in the occupied areas. In this memorandum, we explained the importance of halting settlement as a major issue related to the peace process. In other words, there can be no peace with the continuation of settlements. The Israeli side's response was that the Israeli Government's decision is not to halt settlement. This is the current answer. We say that, if this is the final answer, then the peace process is in grave danger. [end recording]

Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi and Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir held two news conferences in which they spoke about what took place in the sessions held with the Israelis. 'Ashrawi noted the Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories, such as the demolition of homes, arrests, and the building of settlements.

The Jordanian and Israeli delegations are scheduled to hold a session of talks today. The Palestinian and Israeli delegations also will hold another meeting today.

The Syrian and Israeli delegations on the one hand, and the Lebanese and Israeli delegations on the other, also held talks. No progress was made.

In another development, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker met with Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation, and Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation, separately last night. During these meetings, discussion centered on developments in the Middle East peace talks. The meetings were convened as a result of invitations sent to the heads of the Syrian and Lebanese delegations by James Baker.

Lebanese, Israeli Negotiators Cited

NC1401202592 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Nuhad al-Hayik report from Washington]

[Text] The meeting of the Lebanese and Israeli delegations ended at 1340 Washington time today. Coming out of the meeting, the Lebanese and Israeli delegations reported that the discussions focused on three issues: The Israeli attack on al-Na'imah [south of Beirut] last Friday [10 January], the venue of the next round of negotiations, and the time when the Israeli delegation will leave Washington.

Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation, described the meeting as difficult. He said that the Lebanese delegation protested the Israeli operation last Friday, which killed 12 Lebanese including five women and four children. He added: The Israelis

presented their position, but we could not accept their explanation for this operation.

Commenting on what Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation, said—that the Israelis handle the attacks on Lebanon as if no negotiations were taking place—Ambassador Shammas announced: Lubrani can say what he wants, but Lebanon is not an arena open for all. There are international laws that must be respected.

Shammas added: We will talk with them through other channels.

He added that the discussions touched on two other issues: the venue of the next round of talks and the Israeli delegation's plans to leave Washington tomorrow.

Regarding the venue, Shammas said: We insisted that Washington remain the site of the talks. The Israelis, on the othe. hand, insisted on transferring the talks to another place. We adhered strongly to our position, as did they. As for their plan to leave Washington tomorrow, this is their decision. If they want, they can reconsider, but we cannot tell them not to leave. We have voiced a desire that they should make use of the time available before the Moscow talks begin. They said they wanted to prepare themselves for the Moscow negotiations. In our opinion, it is possible to begin making preparations for the Moscow meeting on 22 or 23 January.

Yosef Hadas, one of the two heads of the Israeli delegation, said that the talks were quiet and serious. He added that they had discussed several issues, including the venue of the next round of talks. He added that, regrettably, they did not reach agreement on this. Hadas added that the Israelis prefer to hold the talks alternately in Israel and Lebanon or on the border between the two countries, and if the Lebanese Government rejects this proposal for reasons that the Israelis do not know, they will propose holding the talks in a less remote place. He said: We like Washington, but we find it unsuitable because it is too far away.

Hadas asserted that the Israelis will leave Washington on Wednesday.

Lubrani said that the Lebanese delegation raised the issue of the attack on what he described as Ahmad Jibril's terrorist base last Friday. Lubrani added: While we are holding negotiations to achieve peace, we will not stop doing what we feel we must do in order to defend the security of our northern borders.

Lubrani remarked: The Lebanese believe that we should not have done so, but we must continue doing this despite the negotiations.

Lubrani asserted that the Israelis must negotiate as if no terrorist operations were being conducted against them. He added: We also will deal with the terrorist acts as if no negotiations were going on.

Palestinian Delegate Denies Self-Rule Report

JN1401164992 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian negotiating team to the peace conference, has denied a report published last Sunday by the Israeli newspaper 'AL HAMISHMAR to the effect that Israeli authorities have held talks in Washington regarding the transfer of the Israeli Civil Administration's powers to the Palestinian delegation, through the setting up of joint Palestinian-Israeli committees for that purpose.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi stressed that the report is completely baseless, and that no talks were held with the Israelis outside the framework of the talks.

'Abd-al-Shafi said the PLO alone can decide if the Palestinians will attend the multilateral conference, scheduled to be held in Moscow at the end of this month. 'Abd-al-Shafi stressed that the Palestinians seriously seek peace, but will not relinquish a single grain of their legitimate national rights, the most important of which are the rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil, with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

Warns Israel Against Deportation

LD1501033892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian negotiators at the peace conference, said today in a telephone conversation with the Palestinian News Agency WAFA, that the Palestinian and Israeli delegations will hold their second meeting on the two-track negotiations in Washington today, while the Jordanian-Israeli track will hold its meeting in the morning. Dr. 'Abd al-Shafi said that this meeting will discuss in depth the proposals exchanged by the two delegations yesterday on the agenda of the negotiations, which has not been agreed so far. The head of the Palestinian side described the Israeli agenda as nonpractical, stating that it reflects a lack of seriousness on Israel's part in realizing a just and lasting peace. He made clear that the Israeli proposal confined itself to the issue of self-rule, which is likely to maintain the Israeli occupation in one form or another in the Palestinian land, a matter rejected by our people. As for the Palestinian proposal, it deals with the coming stage as a transitional one, so that after it, the Palestinian people may be able to exercise their national rights, receive their national independence, and exercise their sovereignty on their land.

Dr. Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi expressed satisfaction that the procedural dispute has ended, that the corridor negotiations and diplomacy have been left behind, and that practical and serious negotiations have been entered into. But he expressed disappointment at this prerequisite before the start of this round, and pointed out that the Israeli side had, during yesterday's meeting, focused

on the date and venue of the fourth round, as if this round was a preparation for what would happen after it.

Concerning the situation expected from Israel's attempt to deport the 12 Palestinian citizens, he said that the Arab delegations were meeting almost continuously in the framework of consultation and coordination to face up to any measures contrary to international legality, including deportation and settlement, which are likely to sabotage the bilateral talks. We have learned that the Israeli High Court, for the first time in its history, decided yesterday to try the citizens threatened with deportation in open sessions in an attempt to convince the public of their just nature. Dr. 'Abd al-Shafi warned that if Israel goes ahead with the deportation, it would affect the negotiation process adversely, in addition to exposing Israeli policy and laying bare its credibility regarding the peace process. He affirmed that the delegation had handed over to the Israelis a memorandum asking them to carry out the latest Security Council resolution, No. 726.

Al-'Allaf, Shammas Confer With Baker

JN1501091592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0815 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Washington—U.S. Secretary of State James Baker yesterday met with Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the peace talks, in the presence of Walid al-Mu'allim, Syria's ambassador in Washington.

During the meeting, they discussed developments in the current third round of the second stage of the Middle East peace talks. The meetings convened during this round have been limited to three days because of Israel's determination to leave Washington today.

Al-'Allaf noted to Baker the Israeli side's lack of seriousness with regard to attaining comprehensive peace in implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 383.

For his part, the U.S. secretary of state stressed the commitment of the United States, as one of the cosponsors of the conference, to push the peace process forward and to exert all possible efforts to ensure that the process successfully achieves the cherished settlement.

Yesterday, Baker also met with Suhayl Shamms, head of the Lebanese delegation to the peace talks. Their discussion tackled the same issues that the U.S. secretary had discussed with al-'Allaf.

Baker is expected to meet with the heads of the Palestinian and Jordanian delegations, as well as the Israeli side, today to discuss the same issues.

The heads of the Arab delegations to the peace talks held a meeting last night at the residence of Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation, within the framework of ongoing coordination among these delegations. They discussed what had happened during the meetings of the third round of talks over the past two days. They were in agreement on the need to continue the talks in Washington despite the Israeli determination at the various meetings to move the talks somewhere else. The heads of the delegations also discussed the Israeli side's nonserious position with regard to the peace process.

Israeli Media Report Latest Moves in Talks

Details of Self-Rule Document

TA1501071692

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 15 January, in a report by Moti Bassok, Pe'erli Shahar, and Avi Bnayahu on pages 1 and 5, states: "'Interim Agreement for Self-Rule in Gaza, Judaea, and Samaria'—this is the title of the document submitted yesterday to the heads of the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations by Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, who heads the Israeli team to the talks with the two Arab delegations. The two-page document contains a list of topics very tersely describing the autonomy Israel is offering the Palestinians in the territories. The document lists the spheres in which the Palestinians will run their own lives, such as education, municipal issues, agriculture, industry, trade, justice, and welfare. It states that, after three years of autonomy, an elected representation of the residents of the territories will launch negotiations with an elected representation of the Israeli Government over the permanent arrangements in the territories. The document stresses that the transition to permanent arrangements following five years of autonomy will be contingent on both sides' consent."

Writing on page 5 of the same issue of 'AL HAMISHMAR, Pinhas 'Inbari reports on an Israeli document offering the Palestinians "'ISGA—Internal Self-Governing Arrangements' [preceding abbreviation and expansion in English]. The arrangements are based on the Camp David accords, but are not defined as autonomy, our correspondent has learned from diplomatic sources in Israel who are closely following the Washington talks. According to them, Israel has insinuated these proposals into 'Agenda—Topics for Discussion.' The sources added that, because Jordanian law is applied in the territories, Israel was forced to include in the proposal the establishment of a Palestinian police force, contrary to Shamir's recent statements."

In a relevant front-page report of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 15 January, special correspondent in Washington Ori Nir adds: "Sources in the Israeli delegation have said that the delegation heads have been instructed by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to hold off any detailed discussion of autonomy."

Round of Talks Ends; No Progress With Syrians

TA1401204892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] In Washington the morning sessions of talks between the Israeli and the Jordanian, Syrian, and Lebanese delegations have ended. In the meeting with the Jordanians, Elyaqim Rubinstein, head of the Israeli delegation, protested the fact that at a time when peace is allegedly being negotiated, as he phrased it, innocent citizens are being shot at from ambush. Then he presented a draft peace agreement with Jordan.

No progress was made in the meeting with the Syrian delegation. The Syrians suggested that points of agreement and disagreement be noted, but rejected a document the Israeli delegation prepared in advance. In response to the claim concerning discrimination against Syrian Jews, they said that the condition of life of Syrian citizens is none of Israel's business. They also refused to discuss changing the venue of the talks or to exchange telephone numbers with their Israeli counterparts.

The Lebanese also refused to discuss changing the venue for the next round of talks. They protested the Israeli Air Force raid at the beginning of this week. Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation, made it clear that Israel will not stop attacking bases of terrorist organizations that launch attacks against Israel's citizens.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that a second meeting between the Israeli and the Palestinian delegations will be held this evening, which will continue to discuss the agenda. The teams will meet again tomorrow with the Syrian and Lebanese delegates.

'Atmosphere of Crisis' in Talks With Palestinians

TA1501062592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] An atmosphere of crisis is reported following last night's session in Washington between the Israeli and Palestinian teams at the peace talks. There were clashes over last night's terror and over the substance of the negotiations. Over to Connie Lon in Washington:

[Lon] As the third day of the talks approaches, they are not going smoothly. There are growing strains between the Palestinians and the Israelis. No date has been set for a third meeting, but the heads of the delegations are set to meet later today. They will confer about the next step. Sources say the Palestinians presented an ultimatum demanding Israel halt settlements before further talks can be held. At the start of the second session, Israeli negotiator Elyaqim Rubinstein protested the latest attack against Israeli settlers. Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, expressed sorrow at loss of life, but said terrorism will continue as long as there is no peace. In their public comment after the meeting, Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan 'Ashrawi said her people do not support violence.

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] We condemn all violence against innocent civilians and we condemn basically the cause of violence. That's why there is an urgent need to put an end to this unhealthy situation of occupation. [end recording]

[Lon] For his part, Elyaqim Rubinstein says there is much double-talk.

[Begin Rubinstein recording] We should also not tolerate neither the terrorism itself nor the double-talk of some people supporting peace on one side and encouraging terrorism on the other. [end recording]

[Lon] Yosi Ben-Aharon was even more explicit. He said 'Ashrawi speaks out of both sides of her mouth. She condemns violence while talking in English, but praises it to an Arabic-speaking audience. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

'Ashrawi Comments on Israeli Bus Attack

NC1401221192 London MBC Television in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Mahir al-Shalabi dispatch from Jerusalem]

[Excerpts] Several unknown persons fired automatic weapons this evening at an Israeli bus and a car driving behind it on the highway near 'Ayn Siniyah in the Ramallah area. Six of the bus passengers and the car driver were injured, two seriously, and were taken to 'En Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi telephoned me from Washington to clarify the Palestinian position.

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] We constantly denounce violence against any innocent civilians. Violence, actually, always has been directed against the Palestinians in the occupied territories. The basic cause of violence in the area is the Israeli occupation, its practices, and the fact that it is continuing. We cannot compare individual acts that are, in fact, reactions to acts that are based on an established Israeli policy against unarmed people. Therefore, the roots of violence must be tackled through an integrated peace policy that will eliminate the cause of violence so that we may attain a lasting, peaceful solution. [end recording]

Israeli Paper: Palestinians Forming Infrastructure

TA1501124192 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jan 92 p A3

[Report by Yosi Torpstein]

[Text] In the wake of the peace talks in Madrid, territories Arabs have lately begun establishing supreme councils in every sphere of political, cultural, and social life. The councils, each in its own sphere, are supposed to consolidate the activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip without any connection with the Civil Administration.

PLO organizations are represented on the councils by pertinent officeholders in the territories. The Culture and Public Relations Council and the Housing Council are the two only bodies established in the course of the past month. Another body being discussed at the moment is the Supreme Economic Council.

Palestinian sources describe the process as the establishment of "ministerial" infrastructure for the Palestinian state-to-be. The sources further said that the establishment of councils is expected to facilitate the receipt of about $80 million in aid funds promised by the EC after the Gulf war. The Europeans' condition for these grants was that a single Palestinian element be appointed in every sphere in which contacts with the EC are conducted, as opposed to the former situation in which numerous institutions vied for a part of the European money, causing—in the view of many Palestinians—inefficient, and sometimes unbusinesslike and even corrupt exploitation of aid funds.

The Culture and Public Relations Council includes representatives of 22 institutions from throughout the territories. Early this month, the council elected a seven-member management, which is headed by Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif al-Barghuthi from Ramallah. To date, 14 departments have been set up, including departments of culture, painting, folklore, research, planning, press offices, correspondents, and so forth. Every department is composed of two to five members. After protracted disputes, the Association of Palestinian Journalists appointed four of its members to the council's correspondents department.

The said departments include activists who are also the owners and editors of prominent Palestinian newspapers and magazines: AL- QUDS, AL-FAJR, AL-SHA'B, and AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI. AL-NAHAR, which was founded several years ago with Jordanian encouragement, is not on the list.

Last weekend, activists convened at the Trade Unions Center in Bayt Hanina, Jerusalem, and elected 13 members of the Housing Council directorate, including Attorney Furayh Abu-Middayn from Gaza, who is a member of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, and 'Adnan al-Husayni, director of the West Bank Waqf. The directorate represents all the territories.

The Housing Council's first important mission will be centralizing all the Palestinian plans for construction in the territories to be financed by an estimated $35 million European aid fund. The council will have authority to approve or reject construction enterprises and to decide on the preferred location, style, and so forth of housing projects on the basis of research. There are plans for the establishment of regional committees in charge of construction bids.

Return to Negotiating Table 'Wise Decision'

TA1401121092 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 13 Jan 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Good to Resume Talks"]

[Text] The bilateral talks will resume in Washington this week after a brief delay due to a provocative Israeli decision. The Palestinians and the rest of the Arab delegations, as everyone now knows, delayed their arrival in Washington for the third round of peace talks with Israel awaiting a condemnation from the U.N. Security Council of Israel's decision to expel 12 Palestinians from their homeland.

While the expulsion decision is still on and most likely will be carried out (since never in the past was an expulsion decision rescinded or even overruled by a court order) in spite of the Security Council resolution, the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab delegations have chosen to return to the negotiating table.

This is obviously a wise decision. As one Palestinian member of the delegation said, the negotiations with Israel will have many side battles in order to get to the real war, which is ending the occupation. These side battles will have to be fought on the battlefront as Israel can be expected to create side battles in an effort to distract attention away from the real war.

When we went to the negotiating table, we knew that obstacles and hurdles would be put in the way to frustrate us. This expulsion decision is one of them. There are many others, the most visible of these are Israel's settlement policy and its repression in the occupied territories. Therefore we should be prepared to fight any battle that comes up the best way we can.

Unfortunately, at times we are merely reacting to events rather than creating them. This puts us in a weak and vulnerable position. The Palestinians in the occupied territories have been living under Israeli rule for over 24 years. This makes us experts in the way Israel thinks and plans and this, therefore, should give us an advantage. Hopefully, in the future we will be more prepared to take the initiative and lead the process.

Nayif Hawatimah Views Peace Negotiations

PM1301164692 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jan 92 p 3

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, by Walid Najm in Damascus; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Najm] While the Palestinian delegation is preparing to engage in the third round of negotiations with the Israelis, how would you assess the the previous rounds in Madrid and Washington?

[Hawatimah] The Washington round ended with its logical outcome—adherence to the Madrid formula; that is, in a

vicious circle. This, because Israel insisted on the formula of bilateral negotiations with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation representing the apex of a triangle. Whenever necessary, technical committees would be formed through the bilateral negotiations so that the base of the triangle would become Jordanian-Israeli or Palestinian-Israeli. This illogical situation caused the Palestinian team to overturn the triangle to eliminate trap into which it was driven in Madrid, so that its base would be at the top, which means negotiations along two parallel lines: Jordanian-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli. Whenever negotiations were needed with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, competent technical committees would be formed to that end. But this was rejected by Israel because of its insistence on the Madrid formula and on regarding the negotiations with the delegation and the technical committees as with subcommittees.

Washington regarded negotiations with an independent Palestinian delegation as a formal procedural issue! The U.S. Administration sent a message to all the Arab capitals, asking them to urge the Palestinian team and the PLO to comply with the Madrid formula.

I can also tell you that numerous Arab capitals refused to exert that "pressure." The fate of the coming Washington negotiations depends on the U.S. Administration.

The Palestinian team committed a blatant mistake in Madrid when it failed to understand the ground rules and entered the direct negotiations through the Jordanian-Palestinian formula, thus erasing the two-track negotiations—and it paid the proce for this in Washington.

The Palestinian delegation can now formulate a position that can be regarded as a prelude to correcting the course of negotiations, provided that it maintains its position and and insists on separate Palestinian negotiations parallel with the Jordanian-Israeli delegations. Otherwise, the negotiations will become another "Camp David." This, because the U.S. invitation to Madrid and Washington includes the "Camp David" plans represented in autonomy for the inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. That is, with the refusal to link it with the right to self-determination in the final stage, excluding Jerusalem and those in the diaspora. This, in addition to the condition that settlement and sovereignty over land and water will not be discussed. As for who will be in charge of autonomy, it will be the Israeli military governor.

The way is now open to correcting the course of the negotiations. We would not have fallen into that mistake if some of the PLO's wings had respected and implemented the resolutions adopted by the National and Central Councils. [passage omitted]

[Najm] The U.S. move is clear with regard to the peace issue in the Middle East. Do you believe that the United States is serious about the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Hawatimah] We believe that the United States wants stability, security, and peace in the Middle East. It entered the Gulf war to implement the Security Council resolutions. Since it became the sole superpower the entire world has been demanding that it respond to the need to implement the Security Council resolutions in the Middle East. [passage omitted]

[Najm] Zionist and Israeli circles are suggesting that certain Palestinian organizations are trying to acquire nuclear weapons from some of the former Soviet Union's republics. What comment would you make?

[Hawatimah] This is a farce promoted by Israel to cover up its own nuclear stockpile in Negev. Information and strategic institutes in Washington and London indicate that this stockpile is capable of destroying the Arab capitals in the Middle East.

Nuclear weapons are not packaged goods that can be put in a basket or carried by groups of people. They are a physical and technological base on the ground. They comprise a very complicated series of installations, bases, and missiles. This can only exist within the framework of a state or country that has the experience and knowledge to build this physical and technological base and all its derivatives. It is much more than the cost of the actual armaments. So the Israeli occupier's allegation is a farce that prompts nothing but ridicule among all those aware of the facts. [passage omitted]

*Bassam Abu-Sharif on Bush, Jordan, PLO

924E0166A Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 3 Jan 92 pp 24-25—FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Interview With Bassam Abu-Sharif, Yasir 'Arafat's Political Adviser, in Tunis; date not given: "Bassam Abu-Sharif, Yasir 'Arafat's Political Adviser, in Interview With AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI: 'Bush Is Serious About Peace, Unless They Kill Him; Confederacy With Jordan is Palestinian Decision; We Will Escalate Intifadah; 1992 Is Year of All-out National Insubordination; Some PLO Strugglers Left Organization Because of Difficult Economic Circumstances; We Have Ready Plan for Establishing Arab 'Lobby' in United States and West But We Lack Financing'"]

[Text] Tunis, AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI—Bassam Abu-Sharif is one of the most prominent Palestinian officials in the international arena, not just because he holds the post of Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, but also because he has succeeded in representing the PLO's moderate line and because he embraces an open, rational approach that has become a political program in the current phase.

In wake of the end of the first round of negotiations in Washington, AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI conducted with Abu-Sharif a comprehensive interview on the peace process. In it, Abu-Sharif presented his vision of the future negotiations, of how the Palestinians and Arabs should confront the coming phases, and of his understanding of the true U.S. role.

In this interview, Abu-Sharif expressed his fear of the possibility that Israeli radicals may assassinate the U.S. president because he is serious about establishing peace. But he asserted that assassinating Bush will not halt the peace process.

Abu-Sharif has urged the Arab countries to finance an Arab plan which, he said, experts have drafted on assignment by the PLO to create an Arab "lobby" to influence U.S. decision-making.

In the interview, Abu-Sharif touched on the Jordanian-Palestinian confederacy plan and on the Arab disputes emanating from the Gulf war. Following is the text of the interview:

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] What are your impressions of the bilateral negotiations round held in Washington?

[Abu-Sharif] The general impression is that the bilateral negotiations round held in Washington has not made any progress because of the evasive Israeli position and because of the successful tactics employed by the Israeli delegation, which succeeded in distorting the facts and in giving the impression that Israel is serious about peace, whereas the truth is that it seeks to foil the peace process. We believe that the objective behind Israel's evasive and misleading tactics is to gain time, because Israel thinks that in 1992, the U.S. administration will not be able to play an influential and decisive role in implementing U.N. resolutions on the basis of an old saying to the effect that "the year of U.S. elections is ordinarily a no-decision year." This is the impression.

But the fact is that the Arab delegations' patience and self-restraint finally foiled Israel's opportunity to sabotage and obstruct the peace conference. They also foiled Israel's opportunity to turn around world public opinion and to shift it from a position that blames Israel to a position that blames the Arabs.

Setting 7 January as the new date for further bilateral negotiations is a positive step, because setting this date shows that the process continues. I don't expect Israel to change its tactics, but to persist in its policy. This requires the Arabs to be patient so that they can move the peace process away from the maelstrom in which Israel is trying to drown it.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] What is required at the Arab level to put the peace process on the right path?

[Abu-Sharif] Within the peace conference framework, negotiations are not confined to the process that is embodied in the Arab and Israeli delegations sitting face to face, and it is not confined to the opinions and viewpoints exchanged by negotiators in that chamber. Negotiation is a much broader process. It encompasses developments in the positions of the parties sponsoring the conference and in their tactics. The process also encompasses developments in the international relations balance, especially in the Arab-European relations balance.

All Arabs are required to draft a working plan and to develop a mechanism to apply this plan in a way that impacts effectively the elements influencing the peace process, particularly the U.S. position and the European position. It is an illusion to think that the Arab argument alone will convince Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, as it is an illusion to think that the Israeli and Palestinian delegations' meeting, or the meeting of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation and the Israeli delegation, will lead to implementing Resolution 242, for example. The process requires a whole lot more. It requires, for example, that the United States exert its influence to persuade the Israeli Government that there is no place for its continued occupation of the Arab and Palestinian territories.

The United States has at its disposal the means to persuade the Israeli Government of this. What is required of the Arabs is to persuade and influence the U.S. administration to employ these means. As I have already said, this requires an appropriate working plan, which the Arabs should begin implementing immediately. This plan should be multi-faceted and its most important aspect should pertain to public relations with the U.S. Congress, U.S. administration, and the U.S. centers of political influence. The plan should also encompass a propaganda aspect to clarify the basic facts of the conditions in the occupied territories and to reveal and expose Israel's tactics to obstruct peace efforts. [All this should be] in order to develop a public opinion that pressures the U.S. administration to play, in its turn, an influential role to convince Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] In your opinion, is this possible for the Arabs?

[Abu-Sharif] Yes, this is possible for the Arabs because they possess the resources needed to develop and implement this plan. I would like to say here that this plan has been drafted and that we have it. It needs somebody to finance it. The Arabs can finance it. A number of Arab officials have received a copy of this plan, and I hope that there will be prompt movement to finance it so that implementation may begin. This plan will serve not only the Palestinians' interest, but also the interest of all Arabs. The plan has been drafted by a number of experts on the media and public relations in the United States.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] What is your view of the map of Arab relations since the Gulf crisis and war?

[Abu-Sharif] The Arab disputes emanating from the Gulf crisis and war must not stand as an obstacle in the face of uniting Arab efforts to support the negotiating Arab delegations, especially since these peace negotiations have seen influential participation by representatives of the Gulf and Maghreb states. Considering that the Gulf and Maghreb states have participated in this manner, then it is their duty to implement this plan that seeks to influence the U.S. decision-making process, because this will serve general Arab interests.

I urge the Arabs, all Arabs, to hold a ministerial conference to discuss this matter before the end of January, i.e., before the end of the first phase of the multi-party negotiations that James Baker has announced will be held in Moscow on the 28th of next month.

The Confederacies Path to Arab Unity

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] Some say that confederation with Jordan doesn't emanate from the PLO's desire, but that it will, if it materializes, be imposed on the PLO.

[Abu-Sharif] Confederation with Jordan is a decision made by the Palestine National Council [PNC], and we are trying to implement it. It is a democratic choice by both peoples: the Palestinians and the Jordanians. We believe that creating this confederacy and similar confederacies between the Arab countries is a path to achieving Arab unity. This confederacy may lead to confederation agreements with other Arab countries in future stages. We are for Arab unity. Confederation is the right form now. An example is the European union and the commonwealth of the ex-Soviet republics. This phase dictates establishing the deepest ties, so that we will be able to confront future threats emanating from the war of international economic rivalry.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] There are those who say that the PLO role in the peace process has become marginal, especially since the Palestinian delegation includes no members from the PLO.

[Abu-Sharif] All the parties concerned with, and participating in, the peace conference know that the PLO is the party leading the negotiation process. This issue is settled.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] A lot has been said about the austerity measures adopted by the PLO because of financial conditions. How true is what is being said?

[Abu-Sharif] The PLO's economic conditions are difficult because some Arab countries have stopped paying the annual aid they had previously paid to the PLO.

Moreover, the economic conditions of our people in the occupied territories are also extremely difficult and disconcerting because of suspension of the aid allocated by Arab summits for the occupied territories.

These difficult financial conditions have dictated numerous austerity measures in order to tighten expenditures. This has greatly affected the activities of a number of the PLO departments and has motivated a large number of PLO strugglers to leave it and to seek work to meet their needs and their families' needs.

All-Out Insubordination

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] Now that the bilateral negotiations in Washington have been suspended and postponed until a later date, is the U.S. administration still serious in its effort to make the peace process successful?

[Abu-Sharif] I consider President Bush the first U.S. president to seriously try to create a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East. President Bush is a responsible man and his approach to the issue is not just a tactic, because he is aware that the U.S. has a special interest in a stable Middle East and he knows that the Palestinian issue is crucial to stability in the Middle East.

I believe that he will continue to exert efforts until peace is achieved, unless the enemies of peace among Israeli radicals kill him. But even if President Bush leaves the theater (and I hope he will not), the peace process will continue—even if after a while—because U.S. interest dictates more and more strongly with the passage of time that a solution be developed for the Palestinian issue so that the Middle East can be stabilized.

The peace process will continue, despite the Israeli obstacles. The international resolve pressuring for a settlement in the Middle East will intensify day after day. It is our duty to escalate the intifadah against the Israeli occupation and to launch a new phase in 1992, namely, the phase of all-out national insubordination in the occupied territories. It is our duty to turn every additional day into a very expensive day for the Israeli occupation.

[AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] Some people consider you the originator of the PLO's moderate line. Has this line caused you some personal displeasures?

[Abu-Sharif] There is no doubt that this flexible, rational line that I initiated when the intifadah started has made its way toward success with difficulty. The truth is that the response of the occupied homeland's masses to the rational political vision I projected in June 1988 is what gave this vision strong support in a phase when such a vision was not familiar in our Arab countries, not even among our people outside the occupied territories. However, high political vigilance enabled our PNC to approve in November a program identical to what I had projected previously.

But I will not conceal from you the fact that this political vision created numerous problems for Bassam Abu-Sharif, whether at the personal level or at the public level. However, these problems have ended, God be thanked. As a result, the political vision embraced by the PNC has gained the serious Palestinian position on developing a political settlement through negotiation—which is what we see now—great credibility among Western and U.S. public opinion.

'Arafat Addresses Message to 'Workers of Palestine'

LD1501090392 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Brother leader Abu-'Ammar, president of the State of Palestine, today addressed a statement to the workers of Palestine, the workers of Samid, on the 22d anniversary of the establishment of their enterprise and the 27th anniversary of the start of the revolution. The

statement says: We are going through an historic and fateful stage of extreme importance, seriousness, and sensitivity.

Brother Abu-'Ammar added: At this stage we wage the battle of peace, armed with right and justice provided by international legitimacy. We continue the revolution, the intifadah, and the steadfastness representing the strength and faith of the people.

The brother leader described this battle as complementary to all our other battles, not a substitute for any of them. The brother president saluted the workers of Samid, the workers of Palestine, and their role in the protection of our people and its national identity. He urged them to increase production, saying that the struggle is a creative action. Devotion to work and production are two forms of the enduring and renewable creative struggle.

PFLP-GC Vows 'Swift' Response to Israeli Raid

JN1001183692 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1817 GMT 10 Jan 92

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] We have just received the following:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

An official spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following:

At 1415 on Friday 10 January 1992, a formation of Zionist enemy aircraft bombed vacated PFLP-GC positions in the al-Na'imah and al- Damur areas. The enemy bombs, however, fell and hit homes of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians in the area.

The losses are: The PFLP-GC's losses, none.

Civilian losses: The martyrdom of nine civilians, most of whom were women and children, and the injury of four others. Eight houses were completely destroyed.

Among the martyrs are: Martyr Hayah Fakhr-al-Din, Martyr Umm- Musa Fattum, the wife of Muhammad Ibrahim 'Awad, the wife of Hasan Ghandur and his three children, and an unidentified three-year-old child.

This savage Zionist attack against civilians is clear proof of Zionist crimes and racist spirit and their dimensions. Consequently, it is a strong slap to those who wager on the settlement plans. We in the PFLP-GC firmly believe that without official U.S. encouragement and cover for the Zionist entity, the enemy would not have gone too far in its crimes against the civilians inside and outside the occupied territories. The PFLP-GC pledges to the martyrs that our response will be swift and will occur at the right place. Revolution until the liberation of land and man.

[Signed] The PFLP-GC

Memorandum to Dumas Requests French Assistance

TA1401111992 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 13 Jan 92 pp 5, 11

["Text" of memorandum submitted by the Palestinian delegation to French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas at their meeting in Jerusalem on 9 January]

[Text] Your visit comes at a time when the Palestinian people are intensifying their struggle for a just, comprehensive and durable peace and at a time the Israeli government is escalating its repressive measures in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Israeli Government is continuing to introduce obstacles in the road of the peace process, the latest obstacle being the Israeli decision to allocate 25 percent of the Housing Ministry budget to build 8,000 housing units in existing settlements in the occupied territories and the foundation of settler guards and the decision to expel 12 Palestinians from the occupied territories.

The passing of the Security Council Resolution 726 of January (7,) 1992, was made possible by your contribution. We hope that the French effort will continue in transferring international resolutions into practical and effective resolutions. Especially since the Israeli government has always rejected all Security Council resolutions relating to human rights at the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

France played and continues to play a special role in the formation of the new world order. It has always contributed to the promotion of international peace and security. It was partially due to its balanced and realistic position towards the Arab-Israeli conflict in general and the Palestinian question in particular, that the peace process started. We believe that the collapse of the Soviet Union necessitates a major European role in support of the process. We believe that the government of France can play a major role in this direction in order to ensure the continuation and success of the peace process.

Peace in the Middle East constitutes a cornerstone for international peace and security due to factors of geopolitics and nations' interests. In this respect it is essential for the Europeans to play a major role in the peace process.

To ensure this role, we suggest the following to the Government of France:

1—To increase cooperation and coordination in all fields with our sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO, noting that this cooperation includes the Palestinian people from the occupied territories and in exile.

2—We urge France to start an international campaign for the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 as far as the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, is concerned with the aim of affording international protection in the occupied territories until a just settlement for the conflict is reached.

5—We urge the French government to convince Europe to not provide Israel with financial loan guarantees, especially after the Israeli government stated that its settlement plans depend on such loans. Also to link various cooperation and loans with Israel to Israel's compliance with international law.

6—Concerning settlements, we urge France in its capacity as a permanent member of the Security Council and as a leading member of the European Economic Community, to help the Palestinians in monitoring Israeli settlement activity in the occupied territories by providing European satellite picture of the settlements.

5—We suggest to the French government the establishment of a joint French-Palestinian committee for economic cooperation with the specialized committees and the concerned in the occupied territories based on France's similar experience with other countries.

6—Due to our increasing need in many qualified fields, we request that the government of France provide scholarships to train Palestinians in the field of agricultural, water, industry, commerce and administration.

We reiterate our commitment to the continuation of the peace process and urge France to move effectively to secure a full European role in the peace process based on international legitimacy and the various EEC summit resolutions which have recognized Palestinian national rights and above all the right of self- determination and the right to an independent Palestinian state.

Paper Views Resignation of Algeria's Bendjedid

LD1401165592 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 13 Jan 92 p 11

[Editorial: "The Algerian President's Resignation"]

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid's sudden resignation has again drawn attention to Algeria and given rise to a number of questions about the extent of stability there. Since the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] won an absolute majority in the parliamentary elections, there has been mounting speculation about army action to prevent the establishment of an Islamic state in the country. Many people, particularly in the West, believe that if such a state emerged it would overturn all balances in the region and its effects could even reach southern Europe.

Some Islamic voices played a major part in arousing the fears of neighbors before arousing the fears of the West, and they provided many justifications for the army's intervention when they denounced all those not voting for the FIS and when they labeled democracy a system of government which runs contrary to the Islamic Shari'a.

These rash, extremist voices gave the West in particular the impression that Islamic control of the government would create a new Iran in north Africa, especially as memories of the assumption of power by Khomeyni and the ayatollahs still disturb European governments as they recall the kidnapping, the hostage-taking, and the backing and support for extremist movements.

President Chadli Bendjedid's resignation at this crucial time was perhaps the result of heavy pressures put on him to annul the election results and give the army the green light to act and take control of the situation. The man had been committed from the beginning to democracy and acceptance of its results, whether in the municipal elections or in the recent parliamentary elections. He therefore may have decided to give up power rather than abandon his commitment to democracy and its results. It is very difficult to speculate on what happened in the Algerian lobbies in the hours and perhaps days which preceded that sudden development. Algeria these days is like a boiling caldron. In the recent elections the Algerian people voted against corruption, bribery, and favoritism. They had looked forward, and still do, to a new government that would know how to lift the country, exploit its natural resources soundly, and reinforce the values and ethics of work.

The worst that we fear from the latest Algerian developments is division between the same Muslim Arab people and recourse to arms by political rivals to settle their differences—which would mean a civil war catastrophe.

The Algerian people, whether in the army or in the FIS, are known for their resolve and firmness in war. Their struggle against the French was unprecedented in the Arab world and even in the entire Third World.

We beseech God to protect Algeria from the plots being hatched against it and its stability. We hope that reason and wisdom will prevail in all quarters and that the ballot box will always be the judge. Democracy cannot be good when it suits a certain party and bad when its results favor his rival. The Western states which condemn and urge the downfall of dictatorship in the Third World must respect the Algerian people's choice, whatever it is.

Algeria

Higher State Council Announces Powers, Members

LD1401230192 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 2153 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Good evening. As expected, we have just received an announcement on the Higher State Council. Here is the text:

The Higher Security Council, as a constitutional institution composed of the constitutional authorities mentioned in Articles 24, 75, 79, 129 and 130 of the Constitution and meeting in a permanent session since Sunday, 12 January 1992;

1. Given the statement of the Constitutional Council which says that the Constitution does not mention the situation in which the vacancy of the National People's Assembly by dissolution coincides with the vacancy of the presidency of the Republic by resignation,

2. In accordance with the statement of the Constitutional Council, particularly in its last paragraph, which makes it clear that the institutions endowed with constitutional authority, according to Articles 24, 75, 79, 129, 130 and 153 of the Constitution, must ensure the continuity of the state and seek to provide the necessary conditions for the normal functioning of institutions and the consitutional regime,

3. While recalling its statement issued on 12 January 1992,

4. And, following the consultative meeting held in Government House on Tuesday, 14 January 1992, which brought together the institutions mentioned in Articles 24, 75, 79, 129, 130, and 153 of the Constitution, and after the consultations that have been held, and after consulting the Constitutional Council and the High Court, and after hearing the prime minister, declares:

Following consultations and discussions which concluded that the exceptional situation now being experienced by the country cannot continue without giving rise to collossal dangers to the country and the Republic; and because the continuity of the state warrants filling in for the void in presidential duties with the formation of a provisional apparatus which will enjoy all powers and prerogatives granted by the Constitution to the president of the Republic; it announces: 1. The establishment of a Higher State Council composed of five members: Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman; Khaled Nezzar, member; Ali Kafi, member; Tedjani Haddam, member; and Ali Haroun, member.

2. The Higher Constitutional [as heard] Council exercises all powers stipulated by the current Constitution for the president of the Republic.

3. In case the chairman of the Higher State Council is incapacitated from performing his duties constitutionally speaking; or in case of his death or resignation, the Higher State Council elects a new chairman from among its members.

4. The Higher State Council carries out its duty until the necessary conditions for a normal operation of institutions and the constitutional order are provided. The term of this mission does not exceed the end of the presidential manadate resulting from the elections of December 1988 [date as heard].

5. The Higher State Council meets at the presidency.

6. The Higher State Council is to be assisted by a national advisory body.

7. The Higher Security Council ends its continuous session as soon as members of the Higher State Council are sworn in.

8. This statement is to be published in the official gazette of the Popular Democratic Republic of Algeria.

[Signed] Sid Ahmed Ghozali, prime minister and minister of the economy
Khaled Nezzar, minister of national defense
Larbi Belkheir, minister of interior and localities
Lakhdar Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs
Hamdani Benkhelil, minister of justice
General Abdelmalek Guenaizia, commander of the staff of the National People's Army

[Dated] 8 Rajab 1412 AH, corresponding to 14 January 1992, in Algeria

Able To Take 'Exceptional Measures'

LD1501073692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Higher State Council, which came to fill the vacancy of the presidency of the Republic, exercises all powers constitutionally deferred to the president of the Republic. In this capacity, the Higher State Council is the protector of the Constitution and embodies the unity of the nation and also the state inside and outside the country.

It is the supreme commander of all the Republic's armed forces. It assumes the responsibility of national defense, decides the nation's foreign policy, and directs it. It heads the Council of Ministers, appoints the prime minister, and terminates his duties, signs presidential decrees, and makes civil and military appointments in the state.

It has the right to issue pardons and to reduce or change sentences. It can consult the people on all or any matter of national importance through a referendum. It

appoints the Republic's ambassadors and plenipotentiaries and terminates their duties, and delivers the credentials of foreign diplomatic representatives for assuming and concluding their missions. It concludes international treaties and passes them.

The Higher State Council also decides, should an urgent need rise, the state of emergency or siege for a specific period of time. It takes all necessary measures to impose security in accordance with Clause 86 of the Constitution. It also decides the state of exception if the country is threatened with an unexpected danger which is about to affect its constitutional institutions, independence, or the safety of its territory. In this case, it is empowered to take exceptional measures requiring the preservation of the nation's independence and the constitutional institutions of the Republic.

Army Increases Strength Against Fundamentalists

LD1401195192 Paris Radio France International in French 1915 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] The military deployment is being stepped up this evening on the main access roads to Algiers—preventative measures aimed, of course, at staving off possible outbursts by fundamentalist bands.

Security Forces 'Cracking Down'

LD1401172492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] The security forces in Algeria are cracking down on the leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] of that country.

A source close to the FIS announced this news today and added: One of the leaders of that front who was followed by the security forces last night managed to flee from their clutches.

State May Dissolve Front If 'Trouble'

PM1501120392 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Jan 92 pp 1, 4

[Report by Qasiyy Salih Darwish, Jonathan Randall, and Kim Murphy in Algiers, and Talhah Jibril in Rabat: "Salvation Front Declares Confrontation With the New Authorities; Its Position Confirms Reports That It May Be Banned"]

[Excerpts] In a development carrying the danger of a decisive confrontation, the Salvation Front yesterday urged its supporters to confront what it called the "power" which denied it an election victory. Observers believe that the FIS statement, the first since President Chadli Bendjedid's resignation, could hasten confrontation with the Army and perhaps lead to a decision banning the FIS.

The Front told citizens to be prepared for all eventualities and to defend what it called their free choice, meaning the results of the first round of the legislative elections which have already been annulled by the new Algerian authorities.

Observers believe that the FIS' reactions have been confused and somewhat belated—which indicates disagreement or a split within the Front over what should be done. Diplomats and political analysts even maintain that the cancelation of the election results will intensify the differences already existing within the Front. [passage omitted]

In any event, an Algerian source close to the government has stated that "if the FIS caused any trouble, a statement dissolving it would be issued within hours."

There is an open constitutional crisis and a constitutional vacuum in the absence of a president of the Republic and a National People's Assembly, the legislative body. [passage omitted]

Hachani Makes 'Moderate' Speech

LD1401203592 Paris Radio France International in French 1915 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] [Announcer] I told you that the acting chairman of the Islamic Salvation Front was scheduled to make a speech at 1800 this evening at the el Chafi Mosque, in El Harrach, in the suburbs of Algiers. We have just learned that he made a moderate speech while taking up the topics already dealt with in Communique No. 5 broadcast on Monday.

FIS acting chairman Abdelkader Hachani was on the moderate side, and he called on his loyalists and supporters to be calm.

This evening a large amount of graffiti can be seen in the streets of Algiers hostile to the fundamentalist movement. Down With the FIS! Algeria Is Neither Sudan Nor Iran! The graffiti has proliferated on walls and advertisement panels.

At the same time, the FIS has stepped up security around the premises in Algiers that it controls.

It has also been learned that the trial of imprisoned FIS leaders Abassi Madani and Ali Benhadj has been set for 20 January. This is being reported by sources close to the Islamic movement. The news has not yet been officially confirmed. According to their lawyer, a demand for provisional liberty will be made next Monday—in other words, on the same day.

Hachani Calls for Islamic State, 'Calm'

LD1501022592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0100 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Abdelkader Hachani, an official in the Islamic Salvation Front provisional executive bureau, stated that his party will continue to carry out its activities within legitimacy and that it will not give up demands for the plan for an Islamic state.

During a lecture he gave yesterday at the el Chafi Mosque in el Harrach, he called on the FIS militants to remain calm, and he alluded to the statement issued on 13 January. [passage omitted]

FIS Criticizes Government 'Junta'

PM150110Z692 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Jan 92 p 3

[Communique issued by the Islamic Salvation Front on 13 January: "Ruling Junta Has Betrayed Algeria's Sacrifices"]

[Text] Our country is experiencing an acute crisis—caused by a power-hungry junta and by professional despots—which seriously threatens its security and unity.

When the opportunity for the people to choose their own blueprint and leaders, through an election, prompted hopes that confidence could be restored between the people and their government, the despotic leaders rose up to halt the electoral process and to block the course of the overall change in order to destroy the Islamic blueprint, which represents a policy of loyalty to the people's jihad and their ambition to achieve the noble ideals of national independence and build an Islamic state for which the martyrs sacrificed themselves.

In view of this most grave situation, which was created by a submissive attitude to agents of foreign countries, we provide the following clarifications:

The president's resignation is unconstitutional. It is just one factor in a general conspiracy opening the way to the perpetration of a crime against Algeria and the Islamic blueprint. The Constitutional Council's acceptance of this resignation shows that the country is in the hands of an illegitimate junta.

The Higher Security Council is only a consultative body according to the Constitution. Neither the Constitution nor the people's legitimacy authorize the Council to lead the country.

The ruling junta has betrayed both the sacrifices made by Algeria and its people and their religion in order to satisfy personal interests fed by the people's blood to the detriment of their dignity and independence. With their crimes they have betrayed the people, usurped their jihad, and aborted their aspiration to extricate themselves from the crisis.

In view of the gravity of the situation, no Algerian must remain neutral at this difficult time when a battle is being waged between the people, their religion, and Algeria on the one hand, and colonialism and its servants on the other. We therefore appeal to veteran fighters, wise men, imams, Army officers, soldiers, sons of martyrs, social organizations, and all those concerned about martyred and wounded Algeria and its religion to together confront a junta whose allegiance lies abroad.

The situation is most serious. We must prepare for all eventualities in order to save the country, its sovereignty, and its children.

In view of this most difficult situation we must strengthen our bond with God, beseeching him through prayer and days of fasting.

In conclusion, we appeal to the people to defend their blueprint and their choice and to reject any conspiracy that attempts to thwart their will and to hinder their march toward change. We appeal to them to arm themselves with vigilance and caution, to prepare for all eventualities, and to respond to every imperative dictated by the higher interests of Islam and Algeria. God said: We wish to bestow our benefits on those who have been humbled on this earth so that they may become guides and heirs (Koranic verse.)

[Signed] Abdelkader Hachani, head of the provisional executive bureau

Reaction From Other Political Parties

FFS Condemns 'Illegal' Situation

LD150107489Z Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Socialist Front Forces [FFS] Executive Committee has decided to empower its secretary general, Mr. Hocine Ait Ahmed, to examine the most efficient ways and means, with all parties concerned, of putting an end to the illegal and illegitimate situation caused by the resignation of the president of the Republic.

The FFS Executive Committee, which convened yesterday evening, has also empowered Mr. Ait Ahmed to make all contacts and efforts to preserve civil peace and to guarantee liberties and the continuation of the democratic process as soon as possible. The communique that came out of the committee's meeting, a copy of which was delivered to APS, pointed to the need for conceiving and laying down a constitutional base expressing the satisfaction of all Algerians, both men and women. It also explained that the continuation of economic activity and the strengthening of social stability are two matters related to restoring the citizens' confidence in their leaders, and that the calming of the political situation and the preservation of civil peace and of the security of individuals and property make legality and legitimacy imperative.

The communique also said that the efforts by bodies currently trying to replace the resigned president of the Republic and the dissolved People's National Assembly are neither legitimate nor legal and that the main objective of these initiatives is to cancel the electoral process.

Meanwhile, the communique added, no guarantees or deadlines were offered for the respect of civil and political liberties, for the resumption of the democratic

march, or against a new authorities' intervention, which was begun after what is tantamount to a coup had taken place.

Hamas, Majd Leaders Comment

LD1401181292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Cheikh Mahfoud Nahnah, leader of the Islamic Society Movement, Hamas, has voiced his concern over the prevailing political situation in Algeria following the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid. In a statement to Channel 3 of the national radio station, the Hamas leader urged citizens to safeguard national unity and to keep away from anything that might lead to the incitement of hostility and sedition among the Algerian people, to deprive the enemies of Algeria who are lying in wait of this opportunity. In his statement, Cheikh Mahfoud Nahnah emphasized that all Algerians are required to apply the honorable Koranic verse: Help ye one another in righteousness and piety, but help ye not one another in sin and rancor. He said that God absolutely prohibits a citizen from initimidating his brother citizen, be it a party or an army [as heard].

Also in a statement to Channel 3 of the national radio station, [former Prime Minister] Kasdi Merbah, leader of Majd [Algerian Movement for Justice and Development], said that it is imperative, first of all, to find a solution for the political crisis so that the current crisis will not lead to grave developments. Merbah urged all officials to resort to wisdom and caution and to encourage dialogue and consultation as much as possible to reach an agreement that will lead to the resolving of the institutional and political crisis.

General Union Meets To Assess 'Dangers'

LD1201104492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] The General Union of Algerian Workers [UGTA] this morning issued a statement in which it said that in light of the current national developments, the UGTA National Secretariat and the secretaries general in the provinces, as well as the UGTA federation, met on 9 January [as heard] under the chairmanship of UGTA Secretary General Abdelhak Benhamouda.

An analysis of the situation through which the country is passing and the dangers threatening it was made during that meeting.

The UGTA statement reiterated its call for bolstering the democratic march, the establishment of national accord, and the tackling of the national social and economic conditions. For this reason, the Committee for the Preservation of Algeria was formed. It comprises the living and productive forces of the country.

Social Democrats Criticize Iran

LD1401161992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] In a statement issued today the Social Democratic Party calls Tehran radio's threats direct and impermissible interference in Algeria's internal affairs.

It is well known that since President's Bendjedid's resignation, Iranian media and spokesmen for the Iranian Government have been making statements hinting that Iran will not keep quiet about what is taking place in Algeria.

Egypt

Mubarak Urges Respect for Algerian Sovereignty

NC1401125092 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has expressed his deep interest in what is happening in Algeria by following up on the developments in the situation there. This interest stems from the perspective of the special status Algeria has as a fraternal country and as a people with fraternal Arab and Islamic ties with the Egyptian people.

In a statement today, the president expressed his hopes that Algeria will enjoy internal stability within a framework of national unity. He wished the leaders of Algeria success in safely removing the country from the current sensitive situation it is in.

President Mubarak asked all countries to respect Algeria's sovereignty and not to interfere in its internal affairs. He affirmed Egypt's readiness to do everything possible to support fraternal Algeria so that it may continue to be a pillar of the Arab nation "in continuation of its role which we take pride in and care for".

Bendjedid Resignation 'Last Resort' in Algeria

NC1401072992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0601 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA)—Egyptian papers continue to concentrate on current developments in Algeria which have occupied the headline space of all major Egyptian papers today.

The papers' comments also dealt with these developments and what their results could be for Algeria.

The newspaper AL-AKHBAR said in its commentary that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's resignation was most likely the last resort used to avoid abandoning all powers to the Islamic Salvation Front. The paper adds: Perhaps the Algerian Government and the ruling party can now stay in power a bit longer, whether for a long or a short period. The only thing that observers and political analysts of the recent events in Algeria agree on is that the coming days will witness further developments and that tension still prevails in Algeria.

Concluding its commentary, AL-AKHBAR expressed its hope that Algeria, the sisterly Arab country, will overcome this crisis peacefully and stability and accord will return. [passage omitted]

Leak Proving Libya's Lockerbie Innocence Reported

LD1501021992 Tripoli JANA in English 1429 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, Jan. 14 (JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—The Egyptian paper MISR AL-FATAH, published in Cairo yesterday, said that the American authorities are conducting highly confidential investigations with some CIA officials accused of leaking some American documents confirming the innocence of the Great Jamahariyah in relation to the Pan-Am crash over Lockerbie and the CIA. [sentence as received]

The paper said in accordance with some reliable information from Washington, the accusations were made to the same officials for revealing the contents of documents to some British parliamentary members.

The documents include minutes of contacts made between the officials of the CIA and some British foreign affairs officials in this respect.

The confidential documents reveal the way in which the report of the CIA was prepared and alleges Libyan involvement in the operation although it previously accused other countries.

The Egyptian paper MISR AL-FATAH revealed that there were disputes among the leaders of the CIA and the coming to Britain of some of the parties in the dispute was the reason for the leakage of this top classified information.

The paper said that the investigations are conducted with the knowledge of the CIA away from the judiciary authorities and in cases where evidence is proved against any person he will be removed without any other judgements for fear of the dissemination of the information scandal. [sentence as received]

Factories Strike, Security Forces Called

NC1401125992 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 10 Jan 92 pp 1, 8

[Report by Nivin Yasin and Muhammad Fahmi]

[Text] Work came to a complete stop in the 999 Modern Construction Company—formerly Factory 99—in Hulwan yesterday when workers announced a work stoppage. The workers held a sit-in and shouted hostile anti-government and anti-management slogans to protest rising prices and cuts in bonuses. Security forces intervened, dispersing the workers by force and eventually managing to force the strikers out of the factory. The evicted workers were given compulsory leave which expires tomorrow, Saturday.

A similar incident occurred in the Misr-Hulwan Spinning and Weaving Company last Sunday, resulting in the suspension of operations. Following negotiations with the workers, however, the company management reached an agreement to rectify the situation and give out bonuses equal to past years. That decision reversed an earlier one to only give employees the equivalent of one month's salary as a bonus. Partial operations resumed yesterday, Thursday, and full operations will resume tomorrow, Saturday.

A responsible industry source has said that the Misr-Hulwan Company requested a 2.8 million-Egyptian-pound loan at an interest equivalent to 700,000 pounds from state-run banks to pay the required worker bonuses.

AL-WAFD has learned that the banks have refused to lend the company the money.

Security forces are surrounding the two factories to ensure that neighboring factories are not influenced.

Libya

Al-Qa'ud on Lockerbie Issue, Training Camps

JN1401103092 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Jan 92 pp 20, 16

[Interview with 'Abd-al-Majid al-Qa'ud, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Agriculture Reform, by Sa'd al-Silawi in Amman—date not given]

[Text] [Al-Silawi] What are the contents of the message you conveyed to his majesty the king from President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi?

[Al-Qa'ud] I was honored to meet with His Majesty King Husayn and hand him a message, along with some important documents, from his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The message dealt with topical regional issues and the false accusations leveled at some Libyans in a bid to fabricate charges against them in connection with the U.S. and French planes' incident. I had the honor of meeting with his majesty the king and briefing him on all these documents.

[Al-Silawi] What do these documents reveal about the two planes?

[Al-Qa'ud] I can talk about the official and judicial measures taken and not about the contents of the message. As you know, when the accusation was made, the Libyan General People's Committee for Justice entrusted two judges from the Supreme Court, the highest judicial body in Libya, with the task of investigating the accusations as reported by the news media. The two judges began their work by adopting all necessary legal measures toward these accusations in accordance with the 1953 Libyan code of procedures. The two judges then sent messages to the counterparts in charge of investigating the two planes' crash (the U.S. and

British public prosecutors and the Scottish investigator), demanding all available evidence proving the accusation. A similar message was sent to the judge investigating the French plane crash.

Regrettably, the two judges have not yet received any objective replies. They then sent other messages, but did not receive any evidence or proof. They are ready to go to Washington, London, and Paris to discuss things with the judicial quarters there so that they can complete their investigation. All these contacts took place through diplomatic channels via the Belgian, French, and Italian Embassies. No positive reply has been received to date and contacts were even made through news media, which exaggerate things. The General People's Committee for External Liaison issued a statement indicating that Libya abides by the judicial and legal measures as deemed proper by the concerned parties and that the Jamahiriyah has welcomed and continues to welcome any visit to Libya by investigators or judges from the United States or Britain, by lawyers representing the families of victims, by any concerned quarter, body, human rights organizations, or by any international organization. They are welcome to come and get acquainted with the integrity of investigation and with the seriousness and responsibility with which measures and investigations are being carried out.

Therefore, we are fully convinced that the issue is purely political and not judicial. We wish it were only judicial so that the judiciary would say its word.

As you know, Libya leads the call for Arab unity and for concord rather than discord among all religions in the region. It is also leading the movement toward the loftiness, magnanimity, and glory of Islam. Perhaps this does not please some. Therefore, what is demanded is to preoccupy Libya with other than its main task and its call by fabricating things six years after their occurrence.

[Al-Silawi] News agencies reported that Libya has closed the offices of some Palestinian organizations. How far is this linked to the accusations against Libya?

[Al-Qa'ud] Accusations that there are training camps or Palestinian camps are all untrue. We believe that we as a state are the ones who are exposed to terrorism. It is state terrorism that is being practiced against us; it is also the terrorism of groups. Libya is entitled to approach the Security Council on such matters so that this injustice and slander can be lifted. The brother leader said in a press interview that Libya might at a certain time have supported some quarters, but when it discovered that these quarters are not struggling for a just cause, such as the Irish Republican Army [IRA], it stopped doing so. When Libya discovered that such groups might act against civilians, something which conflicts with our Islamic religion and contradicts the principles of our revolution, we stopped supporting them or extending any moral or material support to them.

[Al-Silawi] Was it for this reason that you closed the offices of some organizations and severed relations with the IRA?

[Al-Qa'ud] Yes, this applies to the IRA. What the president said in the newspaper was clear and candid.

[Al-Silawi] How was the Arab performance and Arab League stand toward the Libyan issue?

[Al-Qa'ud] Our Arab nation, regardless of what might happen, is still in good shape and will continue to play the role it is hoped to play. It is being said, a brother in need is a brother indeed. The Arab League studied the quiet, balanced, and sensible Libyan reaction and issued its famous resolution which said the Arab League Council, after renouncing international terrorism in general, proposes that the Arab League and the United Nations be in charge of this affair. Consequently, it called on the other parties not to adopt any measures that might harm the Jamahiriyah in its capacity as an Arab League member. It did so out of an Arab consensus and solidarity. This is what we sensed as envoys instructed by the brother colonel to contact all the Arab countries.

[Al-Silawi] Considering the current developments in Algeria, do the results of the elections have any impact on Libya and the Arab Maghreb states?

[Al-Qa'ud] First, I should not comment on anything before the completion of the elections on 16 January. Our conviction is that the Arab people in Algeria, or any other country—through their principles, genuineness and their commitment to their Arab affiliation, reasonable view, and right religion—can enhance this constant optimism. As you know, the view is that the Arab masses will not do anything that would negatively affect their future. The decisive factor is that if the masses take control of their issues and potentials they would be more capable and have a better knowledge of their destiny and what is more beneficial to them.

[Al-Silawi] How dangerous are the sanctions imposed on Libya?

[Al-Qa'ud] These sanctions fully contradict with the statutes of the International Monetary Fund whose documents were signed by all member states, including Libya and the United States, especially since the first article of the statutes stipulates that no country is allowed to prevent another from dealing with its currency due to political reasons. On the other hand, the U.S. Administration issued on 26 December 1991 a resolution concerning this monetary and economic restriction, which it regarded as a kind of restriction on the Libyan people's freedom to use some of their funds and currency to obtain some of their requirements through dealing with other countries. The governor of the Libyan central bank has said that Libya was exposed to illegal measures from an administration that we hoped and expected, in its capacity as a big power with wide influence, would respect the international laws and charters governing the world and the international community.

As for the impact of these sanctions on the Libyan people, I do not say that they have no impact, but the Arab Libyan people, backed by the Arab and Islamic nation, are capable of overcoming all these obstacles. What we hope most is that others would return to their senses and that the doors for economic cooperation and international trade, especially in the Mediterranean basin, would be opened. Libya represents an important part of the Mediterranean basin. Therefore, Libyan relations with all world countries require comprehensive peace and not peace for a single group and denying it to another. We hope that peace would prevail for everybody, not to work for peace for one party and antagonize another. Libya, like other countries, needs peace as the United States, Britain, and all world countries do. Hence, we hope that all parties return to reason. There are enough divisions in the world. Let us all open our arms for sincere cooperation, peace, and justice.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Iranian Majles Leader

LD1201102192 Tehran IRNA in English 1803 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] Jan. 12 (IRNA)—An Iranian parliamentary delegation led by Majles Deputy Ahmad Azizi met with Libyan leader Colonel Muammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli Saturday.

Azizi praised Libya's support for the Tehran conference on Palestine held in the Iranian capital last October.

On the Lockerbie incident, he pledged support for Libya's proposal to refer the case to an impartial international court. Two Libyans are accused of bombing a Pan Am jumbo jet which blasted over Lockerbie, Scotland in December 1988 killing 270 people.

The Libyan leader said after the collapse of communism, Islam and Islamic countries have become the target of conspiracies beginning with Libya. He appealed to Islamic states to support Libya.

In a separate meeting with speaker of the Libyan parliament Abd-al-Razzaq al-Suwsa', the Iranian delegation handed over a message from Iranian Majles Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi. The two sides discussed following up the approvals of the Tehran conference on Palestine.

The delegation is currently on a tour of four African countries. Visiting Sudan on the first leg of the tour, the delegation arrived in Tripoli Friday and is to go on to Tunisia and Morocco.

Sudan

Government Calls for Stability in Algeria

EA1401133592 Khartoum SUNA in English 0917 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Jan (SUNA)—Foreign Minister 'Ali Sahlul has affirmed Sudan keenness for the stability of situations in sister Algeria. Sudan is giving great concern of what is going on [in] the political arena in that country, he said. The minister expressed hope that the Algerian people [will] succeed in overcoming the current circumstances and to realise security and stability in their country.

On the other hand, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry Muhammad 'Uthman Yasin said that Sudan is observing the situation in Algeria without interfering in the internal affairs of the others. He expressed hope that the cancellation of the second phase of the Algerian elections would not be against the constitutional legality or be against the real desire of the Algerian people, indicating Sudan's fear of the occurrence of what may endanger the security and stability of Algeria. He stressed the necessity of dealing with current issues in Algeria with wisdom.

Al-Bashir Denies State Training 'Fundamentalists'

EA1401164392 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Council of Ministers, has reiterated Sudan's respect for the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of others, yet Sudan is the one suffering from others' interference in its affairs. He said this yesterday in an interview with a correspondent of the Italian news agency [not further identified].

Lt. Gen. al-Bashir denied the accusations that Sudan is training fundamentalists. He said that the quarters which had been accusing Sudan could not prove one single case and could not produce one person who had received training in Sudan.

With regard to the problem of the war in the South, Lt. Gen. al-Bashir said that peace was near and should be achieved with the minimum of sacrifices. The interview also touched on a number of Arab and international issues.

Iraqi, Iranian Military Experts Said in South

NC0801220392 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 5 Jan 92 p 9

[Text] The paper AL-SUDAN, run by the democratic national grouping in Cairo, reported that a Sudanese airlines plane arrived in Juba in southern Sudan carrying 25 Iraqi military experts. They were received by the commander of the Juba garrison at the airport. The publication said that the Iraqis are experts in antimissile weapons. The specialists went to Jordan on land and traveled from Amman to Khartoum by air. The publication noted that Iraqi military personnel in southern Sudan now totals 100, adding that a number of Iranians and Afghan mojahedin have come here to help fight the People's Movement forces led by Colonel John Garang.

The publication said that the Iraqi regime renewed its pledge to the al-Turabi government to provide military aid to the Sudanese regime.

Islamic Front's al-Turabi Interviewed

PM1301092892 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 9 Jan 92 p 4

[Interview with Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, National Islamic Front secretary general, by 'Abd-al-Bari 'Atwan in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Atwan] The Algerian election results have considerably surprised many people, insofar as the revolutionary Islamists triumphed and the traditional Islamists, and especially the Muslim Brotherhood, were defeated. How do you interpret that?

[Al-Turabi] That phenomenon dates back to the pre-Gulf [war] days. The Islamic phenomenon in Algeria had assumed a popular character. It seemed to have sprung a surprise. It was definitely affected by the Gulf [war] and there was a vast popular manifestation of it. The [Islamic] Salvation Front [FIS], a mass organization, benefited from that vast mass phenomenon which transcended many organizations.

The Gulf war revealed the gap between the spreading Islamic popular awareness and the traditional narrow frameworks. The front grew stronger because it was based on the logic of mass rejection and it has made this considerable progress because of the Islamic awakening molded by the Gulf events. [passage omitted]

['Atwan] Some expect the Army to intervene to prevent the FIS from assuming power. Do you have any such fears?

[Al-Turabi] These fears are aroused because of past Muslim experience, but the Algerian Army is a patriotic army of liberation. It is not like other professional armies used for purposes other than those for which they are intended. That is why when the Army acted in the past, the people assumed that it did so on foreign instigation, but it did not go all the way and its internal unity was affected. Furthermore, the immense popular phenomenon cannot be contained. Had Islam in Algeria been limited within the boundaries of a specific organization it would have been possible to contain it by military force and coercion. Many movements restricted themselves to narrow organizational frameworks and thus made it easy for their enemies to besiege them, but the popular tide is too great to be contained. These considerations are perhaps not appreciated by those who bear ill intentions against the Islamic tide. They probably imagine that they can, and they dare to try to, stand in the way of that popular Islamic tide. Any force which stands in the way of that tide only gives it greater strength and victory.

Another point is that Islam is being presented to Algeria with its gentle and tender democratic face, and gradually, but those who reject the gradual process force the people to revolution, ultimately with grave consequences for themselves. That is when the Islamic revolution erupts. [passage omitted]

['Atwan] Dr. al-Turabi, permit me to say that you personally stand accused of being behind all the Islamic movements in the Arab Maghreb and perhaps in the Arab East, and of being the architect behind the spread of these movements and some of their violent aspects.

[Al-Turabi] That is an honor I do not claim and a charge I do not deny, but people always see signs of Islamic unity and forget that these signs are a response to the Islamic principles in the face of a challenge and must assume a unified picture. I have been described as the symbol and even the leader of a conspiracy. True, I have had links with the world Islamic movement for long decades, and I have studied it and interacted with it, supported it, and exchanged advice with it; but if it was just up to me, it would be less dangerous to the others. It is much more serious than that.

['Atwan] In the same context, you have been accused of opening political and training bases for the Islamic movements in the Arab Maghreb.

[Al-Turabi] First, there can be no training camps in Sudan in isolation from the official organs. Sudan is an open country and the Sudanese people have open hearts. Because of the Sudanese people's nature, mentality, and environment, secrets never endure in Sudan. True, the Islamic awakening which has recently prevailed in Sudan has stirred motivation for the revival of the land, after the decay of agricultural wealth, and for the revival of work, after the recent period of lethargy and inaction in Sudan. One of the things it also revived was the Islamic jihad idea. In the past, fighting was the job of the regular forces—a job like any other. [passage omitted]

Now in Sudan we have opened popular defense bases based on the jihad idea. They have been attended by large numbers of youths who refrained from joining the Army in the past because they saw it as a means of livelihood for the poor who joined it because they could not find any other means of livelihood.

The state concluded that such military training was linked to Islamic values, that it was not only confined to preparing and training people in combat, and that it also educated and united the popular defense recruits. This ensures national unity and education in ethics, discipline, and good conduct, in addition to training them in fighting while they live normal lives, so that if there is an emergency they will be mobilized and ready.

These camps are supervised by the Armed Forces and are open to all. They are visited by both Sudanese and non-Sudanese. People do not enter them in any particular capacity. All students and employees enter them. There is not a single foreigner in them. Training there is

limited and does not require experts from Iran or anywhere else. A junior warrant officer can supervise the training.

I believe that the Islamic phenomenon has shaken some Arab regimes. They always confront Islam with security measures, imagining that it is a direct threat to their security. They found "terrorism" to be a suitable word with which to brand the Islamists. The Islamists have been described as terrorists since the Palestine war, when the Jews feared the jihad volunteers more than they feared the regular armies. The Islamic movements were branded as terrorists, and the same charge was renewed over and over again, mostly by the same Zionist sources. Arab-Israeli rapprochement seems to have grown these days to the point where some circles cooperate with the Zionists even in its propaganda against Islam.

['Atwan] The charge of terrorism was revived after Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Sudan. If Sudan has not resorted to violence, Iran has a long history of financing violent extremists movements.

[Al-Turabi] There is no place for terrorism in Sudan—not even in its political relations, which sometimes become tense. That is why we have not had a single political assassination. Rafsanjani's visit to Sudan revealed a new openness to the Muslim peoples. True, Iran wants to mend its diplomatic relations with the Arab and European states, but the Iranians also want to establish popular links—not just diplomatic links. They were besieged by Western charges of sectarianism and Islamism. That is why they sent such a big delegation to Sudan. It was a very useful experiment in consolidating popular relations on which relations of official cooperation can be built between Sudan and Iran. All the agreements have been published. Sudan does not need Iranian technical expertise for its training. The Sudanese Army has its own very solid traditions. Sudan has not reached a level of military industrialization that will enable it to cooperate with the Iranian brothers. If there is room for anything in the military agreements, it is for Iran to supply Sudan with certain Iranian military products. Sudan purchases such products from all countries of the world. [passage omitted]

['Atwan] The 1948 defeat and the official Arab failure then had terrible repecussions in the Arab homeland, producing changes and revolutions. However, the Gulf war, horrifying as it was, has still not produced the expected changes. How do you explain that?

[Al-Turabi] We said during the Gulf war that change would come, but would not be immediate in the form of terrorist and subversive operations against the West. We said this on the basis that the Arab peoples had matured and that their response this time would be a conscious radical response and not mere anger and emotion. [passage omitted]

The [Gulf] earthquake has affected the entire Arabian Peninsula and changed its popular situation, which had been stable for a very long time. There are labor pains there that will somehow lead to some new development in the way of life there. It seems everywhere that the Gulf earthquake will have an effect. The Algerian Liberation Front had a historic and splendid record of struggle against the French, which it used in its political program and in rebuilding Algeria after its destruction by the French, but that did not help it much in the face of the Islamic tide. So what will become of the regimes which have no record of national struggle or Islamic jihad and no record of using their wealth to serve their peoples? That is an excellent lesson for anyone wishing to learn, and it is good news for those who wait. [passage omitted]

['Atwan] Were you surprised by the omission of the "jihad call" from the Dakar Islamic summit?

[Al-Turabi] I do not think I was surprised. I have known that organization since its birth. I never pinned any hopes on it just so that such hopes could be dashed today. That organization (the Islamic Conference Organization) is nothing more than a symbol of the Muslim dream of the nation's unity, but it is also a stage which exposes the nation's shortcomings and political regimes. If it were any good we would not have tried to create a popular unofficial Islamic conference to make up for the lack of Islamic unity. [passage omitted]

Governor: SPLA 'Indiscriminately' Shells Juba

AB1401123092 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] The governor of Sudan's Equatoria Province has accused the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army [SPLA] of shelling the government-held southern town of Juba indiscriminately at the end of last month, and killing up to 75 people, mainly women and children. Although there were reports of such military action at the time, the Sudanese authorities have waited until now to make any comment. From Khartoum, Alfred Taban telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] Major General Saturnino Harikha, accused the rebel SPLA of inhuman random shelling. He told journalists: They know where the military camps are but it is the psychological effect on the citizens that they want. He said SPLA positions around Juba carried out heavy bombardments at the end of December which caused panic among the people.

The city then returned to normal but he warned that the rebels could move their positions and start shelling again. Maj. Gen. Harikha said he could not confirm or deny reports reaching Khartoum that the bombardment resumed on 10 January but he did say that about 840 SPLA guerrillas had surrendered to government troops around Juba.

Maj. Gen. Harikha said there was no food shortage in Juba thanks to relief flights from Khartoum, Nairobi, and Entebbe, and the flights were the only means of

supply. He said people who fled from rural areas to the city had been housed in camps with schools and medical facilities.

On 10 January night Sudanese Army spokesman, Major General Muhammad 'Abdallah Uwaydah, was quoted by state media as saying government troops had destroyed some 30 SPLA camps in southern and western Sudan and had caused heavy rebel losses. He said that since the beginning of December, the Army had captured equipment including more than 90 rifles, 14 mortars, six machine guns, and two medium-sized field guns.

Meanwhile, the UN World Food Program began rescue flights on 11 January to repatriate nearly 3,000 Ugandans stranded in Juba. The Ugandans fled to Sudan five years ago to escape civil strife in Uganda. WFP said both the government and the SPLA had agreed to the airlift which will take the Ugandans to Entebbe. Maj. Harikha told reporters yesterday that officials from his region were planning to visit Zaire, Uganda, Kenya, and the Central African Republic to discuss the return of the 90,000 Sudanese who have fled the fighting. [end recording]

Envoy to France Details Country's Peace Efforts

EA1401102592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1716 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Jan (SUNA)—The Sudan's ambassador to France has affirmed the country's endeavours to prevail peace [as received] in the southern Sudan through the application of federal system with the exemption of southern states from the application of Islamic Shari'ah laws. [sentence as received] Refuting allegations by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Herman Cohen, broadcast by France Radio International, Ambassador Awad al-Karim Fadllallah pointed out that Cohen knows very well the keenness attached by the Sudanese Government to the issue of peace in southern Sudan.

In this connection, the ambassador referred to the resolutions issued by the national dialogue conference on peace issues which the rebel movement itself had considered as positive resolutions good enough to be a good ground for peace negotiations. He also referred to previous two round of talks the Sudanese Government had held with the rebellion movement and its readiness to sit for such negotiations at any time and place.

The ambassador explained that the Sudanese Government had expressed its welcome and full confidence on the (?generous) peace mediation currently undertaken by Nigerian President Babangida to put an end to the civil war in the south through peaceful means.

Cohen's claims on (?Islamization) of the south by the Sudanese Government is very astonishing because the government had laid down radical solutions to issues of identity, religion, distribution of power and wealth and that by its declaration of adopting federalism as a system for governing Sudan and exempting the southern states from the application of the Shari'ah laws. [sentence as received] Mr. Cohen had alleged the rebels in southern Sudan are [words indistinct].

Extension to Trade Protocol With Egypt Endorsed

EA1401111592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Jan (SUNA)—The Council of Ministers, chaired by the Revolution Command Council, RCC, chairman and prime Minister Gen 'Umar al-Bashir, Sunday endorsed the extension to the Sudanese-Egyptian commercial protocol till the mid of next February. A source at the Council said in a press statement that the endorsement is intended to pave the way for negotiations on the new protocol between the two countries.

Saddam Addresses Military Honorees

JN1401121392 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2105 GMT 13 Jan 92

["Full recording" of President Saddam Husayn's address at ceremony to award medals of valor to a number of soldiers, officers, and commanders—date not given]

[Text] I met with with one of Iraq's virtuous men and gathered that the gangs of treason and treachery were trying to pass from the area where he is head to another area or city. It happened that the only road between the area the gangs came from and the area they had wickedly targeted passed through the community headed by this old man. Despite the fact that they were armed, the man told the gangs: You will not pass. The traitors said: Why not? The old man said: Saddam Husayn is still in Baghdad, so how can you pass through here?

It is enough for men, civilians, or senior or junior military personnel to remember these values under difficult circumstances, and to learn that every action is linked with a decision inside the human brain. If a man is a believer, he can change everything in the world, except the things that are God's prerogatives and the things God does not want him to change. I say that apart from this, everything can be changed and everything is dependent on the will of man. Almighty God chose the prophets and the messengers from among the people. So, how can man be unimportant?

In difficult circumstances, it is enough for men to recall these meanings and to remember that man is great when he has faith, but a feather in the wind when he loses faith.

Man must always prepare himself to confront and deter evil intentions before using direct action to deter that evil.

That old man fought to deter the traitors. He was not a professional military man, he did not study at a staff college, and technically, he was not duty-bound to fight. However, his national duty, his honor, and the things in which he believed prompted him to fight for right. He fought also prompted by the meanings and the values of which he used to speak before eveybody. His wife will tell him: What about the things you have been speaking about with respect to our country, regime, leadership? [Words indistinct] pass along this road.

In general terms, one will wonder why this old man acted this way. It is only a road; let them pass, as they are not opening fire on us. For the old man, however, it was different. No one was watching how this old man would act, but he found himself bound by ethical duty. He believed that if they could pass along this road while he was capable of fighting and preventing them from passing, he would be dishonored, as he would have lost the values of manliness in which he believes, and the values of loyalty in which all the homeland believes.

When God taught us that Muhammad is the last of the prophets and messengers, the role of the human being became greater after the message of Islam because no prophets or messengers will come [words indistinct]. Man's worth is in what he believes, in his carrying out his duties to the homeland and Almighty God, the people, and life, in accordance with the teachings [words indistinct]. We do not say this or that woman is brave. We say that this or that woman is virtuous and glorious. We do not say this about man. Therefore, this is another value. When the values in which man believes become shaky, or are being harmed, then he must be chivalrous and say: I am a man. The third value is his being a military man. With respect to the military man, there are different degrees of nationalism. Everyone supposedly should proceed from one set of standards to decide the degree he believes will satisfy God. In the military, there are the same degrees. There is a difference between the volunteer and the conscript. This does not mean that the conscript should be an agent. When the conscript carries out his national duty, the duty of men, and the duty of military service, then the volunteer's commitment should be double because he has chosen military service. He has chosen military service as a career in addition to being a national duty. This or that man serves in the Army, fights with the Army, and scores victories. Therefore, the volunteer should score double his courageous deeds because he took the military service as a career; he gets paid for it and his children and family live from his service. His social status and frame of mind are governed by the fact that he is a military man, not a merchant, a farmer, or grocer. However, this is different when he is an officer, meaning he leads men who work under his orders. Following the same reasoning, the section commander has a more enhanced ethical and technical duty than a mere soldier in his section. There is nothing below the level of a platoon commander or his equivalent; the number in it is more than the platoon commander when the platoon has a team commander. A tank commander is one [as heard]. Then, he is the leader of 30 [words indistinct] honors.

God forbid that those who fail to carry out their duties at the level of platoon commander will fail their honor before failing in their duties to life. Such a commander will damage the honor of 36 or 40 men. This is because he did not provide them with the opportunity to fight as they should. There are fighters who fight as they should, even if their platoon commanders do not. This is a right dictated by the law of the military, as long as an order to withdraw has not been received. Those who receive instructions to withdraw, not to surrender, but an order to withdraw should abide by it. If there are no such orders, however, and the soldiers see that a platoon commander, God forbid, is not fighting, from a military point of view these soldiers should continue to fight in accordance with the values of manliness. This case is exceptional, and military law will take the culprit to account.

Brothers, I would like to say here that a peasant, who most probably does not know how to read and write, fought just to prevent the people from passing along that

road because this road passes through the area he heads. Of course, the military man should fight when people seek to harm the status of Iraq, of the Arab nation, and of mankind in terms of our interdependence with it.

I would like to keep affirming the following point: The officials in Moral Guidance are not the only ones who are responsible for building men intellectually, politically, and psychologically. I here affirm that you are the commanders [words indistinct]. You are in charge of building men intellectually, politically, and militarily. As you know, a military unit does not fight only with its weapons or level of training, but also with its moral and spiritual structure, based on conviction. You are the ones who implant in them the example to which they should look under all circumstances. When they see that a commander is shaken by a difficult position, it affects them.

They also look to their commander to see how he deals with public funds. If this commander is not firm in the maintenance of a tank or vehicle and in the way he uses them, this negative attitude will affect them. [words indistinct]

If, God forbid, a commander wastes public funds and uses them for personal reasons, he will lose the respect of his soldiers. This will affect their stand in one way or another. When you form men in peacetime as you wish and on the basis of these principles, you will harvest an honorable stand from them in the most difficult circumstances for your country, nation, and army, and for your families.

Take examples from simple social life which you have heard from the elderly, and convey these examples to them. Today we in Iraq need to go back to examples of themes we heard from our grandfathers or from our fathers, particularly in the city. The Iraqi city has developed a great deal in a positive way. Military people should be the first to tackle the negative aspects within their units. In the past, the city was small. Baghdad, al-Kut, al-Nasiriyah, Ninawa, and Mosul used to have small populations. Based on social conditions at the time, every household knew the others. This lasted for 20 or 30 years without change. We used to know that so-and-so was the son of so-and-so. It happened that I saw a boy from Tikrit, who introduced himself by saying that he was the son of so-and-so. I told him: Tell me which family you belong to. This is because he was a small boy, and his father may have been older or younger than me. I cannot recall, but it was just a name. However, when he told me that he was from the so-and-so family, I told him: Yes, I knew them. How did I know him? Because I had my elementary education and up to the second intermediate grade in Tikrit, then I moved to Baghdad.

Do you know now why the city is small? The city is small. So, I spent six years in the elementary phase and two in the intermediate, which is a total of eight years. It was eight years at a time when the city was small, and no one moved from his place. Rarely did one have to move from his place. Social solidarity among people was great, confidence among them was very high, and respect for rules of decorum in their relations also was high. Do you not see the soldier with whom you live, the fighter, whether he is an officer or not? The longer you live with someone, the greater your social solidarity with him becomes and the greater your confidence in him becomes. Why? Because there is an exchange of rights involved. Even within a given neighborhood in Baghdad, a man's respect for women was higher. A woman's respect for herself also was greater. Do you know why a woman's respect for herself was higher? Because all of the neighborhood's inhabitants used to know her. If it happened that a woman opened her aba [an Islamic cloak for women], they used to say that the daughter of so-and-so opens her aba and walks shamelessly. This factor has almost vanished. Why? Because if you ask some people how long they have been living here, one will tell you two months, one will say two years, and another will say four years. So, people no longer know each other as they used to. Someone came from al-'Awja', another from al-Rumaythah, the third from al-Nasiriyah, and the fourth from al-Kut. To form a homogeneous society in which some people can act on behalf of others, people should respect each other and take into consideration other people's rights.

So, do you see now? Through emigration from the countryside to the city, we have achieved the known humanitarian element. This is due to the fact that people have developed mentally and culturally. However, we have lost other aspects. We seek the help of God and the good ones to decrease their effects. So such a level of negativeness, which affected Iraqi society, particularly in the city... [changes thought] In short, some of these factors we have mentioned inevitably will reflect on your Army.

A title and name can be as much a liability as an asset when a human being is great. You may have come across cases in battle. All of you are strugglers and fighters. Each one of you has fought many battles, be it in al-Qadisiyah or in the Mother of Battles. Therefore, what I am going to say you have seen firsthand. However, I say that an attack may have been made on a given formation. There were hard times during al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles during which you found deserters [mutasarribin]. There may be 10 deserters, for example, but you might not find a single officer among them. Why? Some of you may say that this is because officers have had better training, but I say no. This is not the only reason, although it may be one of the reasons. The rank of the officer, however, is visible on his shoulders. Some men may say: Who will know about me? Let me go back with those who are returning. The one who thinks of himself, however, says that all of them will find out about me.

No one is absolutely fearless. Even senior commanders, who you think are fearless, cannot truly be free of worries under all circumstances and conditions. This is a matter of principle. However, that does not mean that they fear

nothing. Fear is a human feeling. You may react to the sound of the door if it is slammed strongly and suddenly. That is, you may be startled. In fact, what makes a human being absolutely dauntless is shyness. A human being becomes fearless if he is ashamed of fear, is concerned about his name and the principles he upholds, and feels ashamed of what might be said about him by his friends, wife, sister, mother, father, or uncle. Therefore, good men emerge from families which include many shy people. If a person does not feel ashamed of fear when he is alone, he will remember his mother. If he commits a misdeed, he will feel worthless before his mother. Likewise, the same thing will happen if his father, brother, uncle, or members of his tribe hear about his misdeed. All this gives immunity to the human being.

Therefore, give men titles. Do not address them in the plural, but in the singular. Call the fighter a fighter and tell him: You are fighter brigadier general so-and-so, son of so-and-so, the commander of the so-and-so division. You are fighter so-and-so from the mortar platoon. Whenever a man feels that his title is on his shoulders, on his forehead, over his head, and within his conscience, he never will be defeated.

The same applies to the party, which is required to create titles for people, in the sense that it should create common values in streets where residents do not know one another. Each one of them, wherever he might have come from, should respect such titles. He should either respect them or move from that street, even if he owns his house. Through the people's councils, I call on the people's councils to tell him: We do not like your son's conduct. You should instruct him to behave better; otherwise, we do not want to see him. Or your daughter's conduct is bad, so either you instruct her to behave well or we do not want to see her. People should cooperate to create common traditions within one village, within one street, within one city, and consequently within Iraq. He who lacks tradition lacks roots, and he who lacks roots is removed by any gust of wind.

Instill these values in the fighters, my brothers and comrades- in-arms. Help them and relate to them so that you borrow values from them in addition to those you already have. In such a case, you will have men like those mentioned by the 17th Brigade commander, from which a tank battalion attacked a regiment's positions. In other words, there exists a case when a counteroffensive fails to dent you. Enemy aircraft may be circling overhead with their known firepower. The land over which you fought was flat like the palm of a hand, and formations were retreating from Kuwait. Yet we told the men to mount a counteroffensive and drive back the Americans. It is a hard situation for a commander and fighter, and yet you found that there were men who proved to be more than a match for the enemy.

I have touched on these points briefly, without conveying the full picture. However, I hope to discuss all the points that contributed to this great deed.

Make an effort with the men so as to reassure them at difficult times. May God not expose you to difficult times. However, life has good days and difficult ones, as you know.

Make an effort with them, primarily by being an example for them. You should not be preoccupied by life at the expense of your military duty and meaning.

Make the military everything in your life. For you, it is no longer an easy life. It has become spiritually and morally based on Islam. The other bridgehead is all the great meanings by which you have become an example to be followed by humanity. Only then will God grant you and us success.

Convey my greetings to the fighters in all formations and units with which you are affiliated. Your history is great and, God willing, your future is great, too.

INA Version of Speech

JN1301203992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2015 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that it was U.S. President George Bush who declared a cease-fire in the battles, without submitting an official demand to Iraq.

Awarding medals today to a number of fighters, commanders, and officers in the Armed Forces, the Republican Guard, and the Special Guard, his excellency said: We have always told the enemies that they will not be able to change the new man in our souls and that every Iraqi is a new, wise man, with God's help.

The president also said that their strike on the 10th Armored Brigade during its withdrawal, after they declared a cease-fire, will continue to haunt them throughout their lives. How will they escape from history? This incident is registered against them.

His excellency added: So Bush, uninvited and of his own free will, ordered the cease-fire. Without a doubt, the reason was mainly to do with his joining the battle against the Republican Guard, when the latter deployed to make it possible for other army units to withdraw according to plan. And yet, it was they who declared the cease-fire, and it was they who needlesaly violated the cease-fire for the sole purpose of treachery, because they could not do any harm to this brigade and many other Republican Guard units thanks to the vigilance of their commanders and their morale, although all their orders in their broadcasts publicly concentrated on hitting and shelling the Republican Guard.

His excellency the president said: We told them that they could harm us, since they had many weapons, but that they would not be able to change the new human being within us, because within every Iraqi there is a new, youthful human being. He is not related to the 700 years that elapsed between the fall of Baghdad and the new revival. The new human being has bridged the gap so as

to connect the last bright link and the first bright link in the chain of the nation's history before the 700 years of decline.

His excellency said: The 10th Armored Brigade lost tanks and blood, but did not lose its honor. On the other hand, the enemies, especially the Americans, lost both their human and the military honor in this base act.

For the Americans to maintain any standards of human honor, and any minimum level of military honor, as they are supposed to do, they must not accept such lowly rulers who decide on a cease-fire and break their promise at the same time in order to take some advantage, although they rule a superpower. This is a fact in the material standards of the superpowers; but look how small they appear when they ignore the moral aspects. This fact will continue to pursue them, and they will never rid themselves of it.

Addressing the fighters, President Saddam Husayn added: Look what God has written for you: You fought eight years without any bad mark on your struggle history, military history, and the history of this great people. You fought for a full eight years, with all their details, details that are not mentioned in books. However, your honor was not injured. And then you fought the armies of 30 states without your honor being injured. But those who are big materially and in the new material life are small in terms of spirit and values. They sit and plan how to commit treachery against a brigade when it leaves its position after the cease-fire, and attack it while advancing along the only road in the marshland.

His excellency said: I met with with one of Iraq's virtuous men and gathered that the gangs of treason and treachery were trying to pass from the area where he is head to another area. It happened that the only road between the area from where the gangs came and the area wickedly targeted by them passed through the community headed by this old man. The man said to the gangs of treason and collaboration: You will not pass. This is despite the fact that they were armed. The traitors said: Why not? The old man said: Saddam Husayn is in Baghdad. Why do you pass through here?

President Saddam added: It is enough for men, civilians, or senior or junior military personnel to remember these values under difficult circumstances, and to learn that every action is linked with a decision inside the human brain. If a man is a believer, he can change everything in the world, except the things that are God's prerogatives and the things that God does not want them to change. I say, apart from this, everything can be changed and everything is dependent on the will of man. Almighty God chose the prophets and the messengers from among the people. So, how can man be unimportant?

He affirmed that under difficult circumstances, it is enough for men to recall these meanings and remember that man is great when he has faith, but a feather in the wind when he loses faith.

Man must always prepare himself to confront and deter evil through intentions before using direct action to deter that evil.

That old man fought to deter the traitors. He was not a professional military man, he did not study at a staff college, and technically, he was not duty-bound to fight. However, his national duty, the man's honor, and the things in which he believed prompted him to fight for right.

The president said: When God taught us that Muhammad is the last of the prophets and messengers, the role of the human being became greater after the message of Islam, because no prophets or messengers will come. It became the responsibility of mankind alone—without help from a prophet or a messenger—to carry out his duties toward God and people and to play his role in life in accordance with the messages that came in the holy Koran.

The president said: A few days ago I said: Do not imagine that the officials in Moral Guidance are the only ones who are responsible for building men intellectually, politically, and psychologically. I here affirm that you are the commanders of the Moral Guidance officers; you are in charge of building men intellectually, politically, and militarily. As you know, a military unit does not fight only with its weapons or level of training, but also with its moral and spiritual structure, based on conviction. You are the ones who plant in them the example which they look to under all circumstances. When they see that a commander is shaken by a difficult position, it affects them. They also look to their commander to see how he deals with public funds. If this commander is not firm in the maintenance of a tank or vehicle and in the way he uses them, this negative attitude will affect them.

His excellency the president added: A title and name can be as much a liability as an asset when a human being is great. You may have come across cases in the battles, and all of you are strugglers and fighters. Each one of you has fought many battles, be it in al-Qadisiyah or in the Mother of Battles. Therefore, what I am going to say, you have seen firsthand. However, I say an attack may have been made on a given formation. There were hard times during al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles during which you found deserters [mutasarribin]. There may be 10 deserters, for example, but you might not find a single officer among them. Why? Some of you may say this is because officers have had better training, but I say no, this is not the only reason, although it may be one of the reasons. But the rank of the officer is visible on this shoulders. Some men may say: Who will know about me? Let me go back with those who are returning. But the one who thinks of himself says all of them will find out about me.

The president said: Nobody is absolutely fearless. Even the senior commanders whom you think are fearless cannot truly be free of worries under all circumstances

and conditions. This is a matter of principle. That does not mean, however, that they fear nothing. Fear is a human feeling. You may react to the door if it is slammed strongly and suddenly. That is, you may get startled. In fact, what makes a human being absolutely dauntless is shyness. A human being becomes fearless if he is ashamed of fear, is concerned about his name and the principles he upholds, and feels ashamed of what might be said about him by his friends, wife, sister, mother, father, or uncle. Therefore, good men emerge from families which include many shy persons. This is because if a person does not feel ashamed of fear when alone, he will remember his mother. If he commits a misdeed, he will feel worthless before his mother. Likewise, the same will happen if his father, brother, uncle, or members of his tribe hear about his misdeed. All this gives immunity to the human being.

Therefore, give men titles. Do not address them in the plural, but in the singular. Call the fighter a fighter and tell him: You are fighter brigadier general so-and-so, son of so-and-so, commander of the so-and-so division. And you are fighter so-and-so from the mortar platoon. Whenever a man feels that his title is on his shoulders, on his forehead, over his head, and within his conscience, he will never be defeated.

The same applies to the party, which is required to create titles for people, in the sense that it should create common values in streets where residents do not know each other. Each one of them, wherever he might have come from, should respect such titles. He should either respect them or move from that street, even if he owns his house. He who lacks tradition lacks roots, and he who lacks roots is removed by any gust of wind.

Addressing the fighters, his excellency the president said: Instill these values in the fighters, my brothers and comrades-in-arms. Help them and relate to them too so that you borrow values from them in addition to those you already have. In other words, there exists a case when a counteroffensive fails to dent you. Enemy aircraft may be circling overhead with their known firepower. The land which you fought over was flat like the palm of a hand, and formations were retreating from Kuwait, and yet we told the men to mount a counteroffensive and drive back the Americans. It is a hard situation for a commander and fighter, and yet you found that there were men who proved to be more than a match for the enemy.

I have touched upon these points briefly without conveying the full picture, but I hope to discuss all the points that contributed to this great deed.

Concluding, President Saddam Husayn said: Make an effort with the men so as to assure them at difficult times. May God not expose you to difficult times. However, life has good days and difficult ones, as you know.

Make an effort with them, mainly by being an example for them. You should not be preoccupied by life at the expense of your military duty and meaning.

Make the military everything in your life. For you, it is no longer an easy life. It has become spiritually and morally based on Islam, and the other bridgehead is all the great meanings by which you have become an example to be followed by humanity. Only then will God grant you and us success.

Your history is great and your future is great too, God willing.

Recipients of Medals Named

JN1301203392 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has said that man is judged by his principles, and adherence to principles is an honor. He added: We have always told our enemies that they cannot change the new man inside us. Inside every Iraqi, his excellency added, there exists a new young and wise man, with God's help.

The remarks were made during a ceremony to confer medals of valor upon the soul of comrade martyr Khalid Muhammad al-Badr, former president of the General Federation of Peasant Cooperative Societies, and upon valiant fighter commanders and officers of the Armed Forces, the Republican Guards, and the Special Guards Forces.

The leader president called on his great people and the leading party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, to cooperate in order to formulate and engrave common traditions on the public in cities, villages, and streets, and, consequently, throughout Iraq. His excellency stressed that those who lack in tradition, lack in roots, and those who have no roots cannot stand firm in the face of the wind. Following is the text of the decrees granting the medals:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential decree:

In appreciation of the jihad and superb courage demonstrated by martyr Khalid Muhammad al-Badr in defending the honor, dignity, and might of the nation in the Mother of Battles, including the chapter of treason and treachery, and in defending great Iraq; and based on Article 26 of the amended Medals and Badges Law No. 95 of 1982, we decree the following:

Martyr Khalid Muhammad al-Badr, former president of the General Federation of Peasant Cooperative Societies, shall be granted three medals of valor.

Competent ministers shall implement the decree.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential decree:

In appreciation of the heroic position and superb courage demonstrated by the following commanding officers in defending the honor, dignity, and might of the nation in the Mother of Battles, and their continuation of the fighting; and based on Article 26 of the amended Medals and Badges Law No. 95 of 1982, we decree the following:

The following commanding officers shall be granted three medals of valor:

Staff Brigadier General 'Abd-al-Hafiz Khaz'al Rashid.
Staff Brigadier General Isma'il Ibrahim al-'Abd.
Staff Brigadier General 'Ali 'Abd Mahmud 'Ali.
Staff Brigadier General Mahmud Diham Bidwi.
Staff Brigadier General Husayn Jasim Muhammad Jubarah.
Staff Brigadier General Fawzi Ahmad Latif Salim.

Competent ministers shall implement the decree.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Presidential decree:

In appreciation of the heroic stand and extraordinary bravery displayed by the fighters whose names are mentioned below in defending the nation's honor, dignity, and pride in the Mother of Battles; in appreciation of their continuous fighting in the battle from the beginning until they ended the chapter of treason and treachery in defense of great Iraq; and in accordance with the Article 26 of the amended Medal and Badges Law No. 95 of 1982, we decree the following:

1. Each of the following fighters will be granted three medals of valor:

Major General Ahmad Hamdi Salih; Brigadier General Malik Rudayyih Latif; Staff Brigadier General Hamid Ramadan 'Abdallah al-'Azzawi; Staff Brigadier General Khalil 'Awwad 'Ali Hamid; Staff Brigadier General Jabbar Zahir Nusayyaf al-'Azzawi; Brigadier General Taha Muhammad Mukhaybir; Staff Brigadier General Hazim Mahdi Salih; Staff Colonel Khalaf Muhammad Rahim Jasim; Staff Colonel Muzhir Husayn 'Abd; Staff Colonel Mumtaz Muhammad 'Abdallah; Staff Colonel Farhan 'Awad Khalaf; Staff Colonel Ghazi Muhsin Marzuq; Staff Colonel Mahmud Salih Husayn; Staff Colonel Muhammad 'Abd 'Abbas Khalaf; Staff Colonel Humud Hamad Salih Sultan; Staff Colonel Hikmat Kazim Salman; Staff Colonel 'Adnan 'Azzawi 'Ali; Staff Colonel Shubat 'Ali Matar; Staff Colonel Walid Hamid Tawfiq; Staff Colonel Fulayhan Jannush Sulayman; Staff Colonel Hamad Khalaf Jawaz Mahdi; Colonel Qasim Majid Rashid; Colonel 'Abd Murayyish Muhammad Musa; Staff Colonel Sa'd Jasim Muhammad Yusuf; Colonel Muhammad 'Ubayd Husayn; Colonel As'ad Bandar Sayf Mansur; Colonel Mustafa Mar'i 'Aziz Hamid; Colonel Yunus 'Idan 'Ali; Colonel Ahmad Shihathah Hammudi; Staff Colonel Sufyan 'Abdallah Husayn; Staff Colonel Sa'd Khalil Ibrahim 'Abbas; Staff Colonel Qays Kazim Sarhan Husayn; Colonel Isma'il Ahmad Muslih; Colonel Muhammad Hamid Muhammad Salih; Colonel Malik Muhammad Hasan; Staff Colonel Khamis Salih 'Ali; Staff Colonel Muhammad Salim Hadid; Staff Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad Hasan 'Ali; Staff Lieutenant Colonel Salah 'Abd-al-Sattar Ahmad; Staff Liutenant Colonel Kazim Muhammad Faris; Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan Muhammad Yasin; Staff Lieutenant Colonel Bayir Husam-al-Din Muhammad; Lieutenant Colonel 'Ali Mustafa Ibrahim; Staff Lieutenant Colonel Jubayyir Biri' Hamad; and Staff Major Barzan Razzuq Sulayman.

2. The fighters whose names are listed below will be granted five medals of valor:

Staff Lieutenant Colonel Khaldun 'Abd-al-Rahman Salih, Staff Lieutenant Colonel Latif 'Adwan Husayn, Lieutenant Colonel Talal Jasim Khalaf, Lieutenant Colonel Naji Hamad Qayfan Salman, Staff Lieutenant Colonel Yasir 'Abd-al-Karim Naji, Major Jasim Muhammad Khudayyir, Major Sabah Ahmad Hummadi, Major Muhammad Khalaf Husayn, and Staff Major Faruq Jasim Muhammad Sa'id.

3. The two fighters named below will be granted four medals of valor:

Staff Lieutenant Colonel Hamid al-Humud Hummadi and Major Walid Husayn Bakir.

Competent ministers shall implement the decree.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic.

Foreign Minister's Letter on U-2 Overflights

1991, 6 Jan, 8 Jan Overflights Detailed

JN1201173692 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] Iraq has informed UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali of the continued violations of Iraqi airspace by the U.S. U-2 spy plane under the pretext of conducting an air survey for the UN special committee. In a letter to the UN secretary general, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn said that using this aircraft to violate Iraqi airspace constitutes an insult, not only to Iraq's rights and sovereignty, but also to the credibility of the special committee and its definite mandate laid out by Resolution 687 of 1991.

In his letter, Ahmad Husayn said that on 1 August 1991, the special committee informed Iraq that it decided to carry out air surveys over Iraqi territory in order to specify any additional positions for inspection and to supervise and continuously ensure Iraq's abidance by Resolution 687 in declared positions or in positions defined by the Special Committee. The minister noted that the chairman of the special committee explained to Iraq's permanent UN representative in New York that the planes to be used in the air survey would be American and would take off from Saudi Arabian airports. The planes would be protected by fighter plane escorts in case Iraq did not agree on this survey.

The foreign minister pointed out that on 6 August 1991, the Iraqi Government sent its reply to this letter, voicing its objection and explaining that the planes which were intended to be used in aerial survey, by force and in a semi-combat manner, are not higher than the artificial satellites which continuously carry out reconnaissance on Iraq. The minister said that choosing an American plane and pilot for this mission raises doubts that this mission might be used for purposes other than those of the United Nations. The minister said the letter asked that the request for using this aircraft be made by the UN secretary general or the president of the UN Security Council. The letter concluded: We will not hinder the air survy despite our conviction that our stands were correct and our questions legitimate, and in order to abort the aims of the ill-meaning ones.

Ahmad Husayn regretted that the United Nations and the special committee did not heed the Iraqi objections. The special committee's deputy chairman sent a letter to Iraq on 7 August 1991 informing it that the air survey flights would begin soon. The terms were that Iraq would be notified of the time of the flight and would respond by acknowledging the notification. The letter added that these flights would be carried out on a regular schedule until the UN organs deem it proper to cease them.

The foreign minister asserted that the Special Committee announced that the U.S. U-2 spy plane had been chosen for this mission, despite the fact that the choice of this single-seat plane constituted a violation of the pledge of the chairman of the special committee in his letter dated May 1991 concerning the immunities and privileges of the special committee in Iraq. This letter stipulated that in each case, the Iraqi Government would appoint an observer to accompany the team that carried out the air survey.

The minister said that this infamous plane first violated Iraqi airspace on 12 August 1991 and flew over Iraqi cities, towns, and villages for over three and one-quarter hours. The minister noted that Iraq protested this violation of its airspace in a letter to the UN secretary general. As usual, the former secretary general did not heed Iraq's protests and arguments. This plane continued to violate Iraq's airspace again and again.

The minister said: On 19 August 1991, we asked the secretary general to provide assurances that the pictures and data collected by this spy plane would remain in the possession of the United Nations and for the information of the special committee formed by UN Security Council Resolution 687 of 1991. To our utter regret, the mandate of Mr. Perez De Cuellar ended and Iraq did not obtain such assurances, which is the least that could be done.

The minister added that the number of flights by this plane increased, reaching 21 flights in 1991 and amounting to more than 77 hours over Iraqi territory. This gave convincing proof that Iraqi doubts about the task of this plane, which is used for purposes of provocation and espionage in the interest of some international sides in the name of the special committee and the United Nations, were justified. The minister noted that such violations are carried out by coercion and threats, something that contravenes the principles and aims of the UN Charter and contradicts the rights of the Republic of Iraq, an independent, sovereign state and a founding member of the United Nations.

The foreign minister pointed out that what happened on 4 October 1991 is one of incidents proving the credibility of our statements on the U-2's mission. On that day, the aircraft's violation of Iraqi airspace coincided with that of the Israeli aircraft. This reaffirms that some international sides have premeditated hostile plans against Iraq and are using the special committee and the United Nations as a cover. He said that in January 1991, when the special committee began using its own helicopters to carry out its mission in Iraq, including photographing declared positions or those defined by the special committee, the Iraqi Government thought that the U.S. U-2 spy plane would be disposed of, especially since the duty of photographing these positions was assigned to the special committee's helicopters and since the special committee had promised to use both means.

The foreign minister ridiculed the special committee's allegation that it has the right to use the air survey plane in accordance with Resolutions 687 and 707. Resolution 687 does not refer to the issue of an air survey and Resolution 707 was issued three days after the U-2 plane carried out its first flight over Iraqi territory on 15 August 1991.

He added that the special committee also breached the notification terms it had prepared when the U.S. U-2 spy plane carried out its 12th flight over Iraq on 23 October and when the aircraft left Iraqi airspace and returned to it without using the entry and departure points specified in the notification terms. The special committee was unable to provide an acceptable explanation of the breach of the notification terms.

In his letter, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn said that the international sides, which are hostile toward Iraq and do not hesitate to use all legitimate and illegitimate means to harm this country, its sovereignty, and its territorial integrity, began using this spy aircraft at the beginning of 1992, together with the other tools and means, in order to harm Iraq and violate its airspace.

He pointed out that this plane entered Iraqi airspace from Saudi Arabia on Monday 6 January 1992 and flew over Baghdad for three hours, circling the city seven times. It then returned to Saudi airspace.

The foreign minister said that this flight had an intelligence and provocative nature and had nothing to do with efforts to monitor the positions specified in the Special Committee's mission. He added that 48 hours later, on Wednesday, 8 January 1992, the U.S. spy plane returned to Iraqi airspace from Saudi Arabia and flew over

Baghdad again for approximately three hours, circling the city seven times. It then left Iraqi airspace for Saudi Arabia.

Concluding his letter, the foreign minister said: The Iraqi Government is placing before the United Nations these facts about the intelligence, provocative, and aggressive mission of this plane in violation of the mission of the Special Committee, as defined by Resolution 687. He hoped that the new secretary general would stand in the face of attempts to exploit the United Nations and its bodies to achieve goals conflicting with the objectives of the United Nations and its Charter. He also stressed Iraq's denunciation of this plane's 22d and 23d violations, which took place immediately after the new UN secretary general assumed power.

Editorials, Messages on Anniversary of War

Party Asks Arabs To Express Anger

JN1101210492 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 11, INA—The Arab Ba'th Socialist Party [ABSP] External Relations Bureau said the Mother of Battles had unveiled the deception and duality in international relations.

A bureau message addressed today to Arab parties on the first anniversary of the Zionist, Atlantic and American aggression on Iraq said that the big duel had exposed the false glaring slogans and trading in human rights and international legitimacy for realizing the strategy of evil and aggression propagated by the American President in the name of the new international order.

The message said that the aggression of 17th January on Iraq was preplanned years before and was among the U.S. strategy for dominating the destinies and riches of the Arab region.

The ABSP message further pointed out that the U.S. aggression on Iraq was assisted by the Arab official position and the disintegration of the former Soviet Union and the socialist camp.

It added that Iraq was exposed to this vicious onslaught because of its rejection of the American tyranny and insistence on liberating Palestine and all occupied Arab territories and for its serious endeavour to place Arab wealth in service of the Arab nation's development and just issues.

The ABSP message further added that the Mother of Battles and its aftermath confirmed that the Zionist-Imperialist alliance led by Washington had undertaken an abhorred misguiding information and political campaign of the world public opinion for gearing up affairs toward aggression and using their brute force after contributing to failing all Arab and international efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

The message urged Arab parties to express their protest and anger over the aggression and aggressors and championing Iraq by boosting solidarity with it and demanding an urgent lifting of the economic blockade imposed on its people.

Envoy to UN on Anniversary

JN0701090292 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Jan 92 p 15

[By Tal'at Shana'ah]

[Text] Amman—Dr. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari, Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, has said that despite Iraq's limited geographical, material, and human capabilities, it has been able to remain steadfast on the political, moral, and cultural levels. Iraq was also able to remain steadfast in the face of the aggression in which the armies of 30 states, led by the United States, used the most sophisticated military and espionage technology.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR during a short visit to Jordan, al-Anbari said that the first anniversary of the aggression shows that "the world order" is a form of neocolonialism. He affirmed on this anniversary that Iraq, which believes in the fairness of its cause and which is concerned about the Arab nation's future generations, has been able to reconstruct infrastructure such as electricity, water, bridges, and scientific institutions. The military force could not destroy Iraq's will.

Dr. al-Anbari said: The siege imposed on Iraq is illegitimate. But despite the siege, Iraq was able to reconstruct what was destroyed by the war. Visitors to Baghdad will see unexpected things despite the difficult living conditions and limited potentials. Reconstruction is everywhere. This has been achieved in a short time. The sound line adopted by Iraq continued to unite its position and that of the Arab ranks. This success was contrary to the expectations and objectives of the enemies.

Right To Mark Anniversary Affirmed

JN1501121592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jan (INA)—An Iraqi newspaper emphasizes that the Iraqi people have succeeded in repairing the damage caused by the aggressors in record time, thanks to their resolve, experience, and creative abilities.

In an article appearing today, AL-THAWRAH says that in the field of construction, just as on the battlefield: The brave Iraqis, who fought 33 states, have demonstrated their adherence to the values of manhood and to national and military honor at the same time.

It notes that the people of Iraq have every right to celebrate the first anniversary of the sinful aggression and to feel proud for having stood fast in the face of a more difficult test—the crushing of the gangs of treason,

treachery, and destruction—and for rebuilding, in record time, what the villains had destroyed.

The paper explains that the U.S. aggression against our country targeted not only our material structure and civilized edifice, but also the building of the new Iraqi man. It sought to crush the will of the Iraqis and to shake their firm belief in the revolution.

AL-THAWRAH says that the rancorous enemies managed to destroy the infrastructure and to demolish the civil, educational, and cultural institutions by their barbaric shelling; they killed tens of thousands of women and children. Their essential objective of destroying the new man in Iraq, however, was a complete failure.

The paper ridicules the false allegations of war criminal Bush that his war was "clean" and "moral." Bush was the one who declared a cease-fire, but he breached it and perpetrated treachery, even against military integrity, the paper says.

Palestinian Support Urged

JN1301193892 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers: On the eve of the anniversary of the most vicious aggression against the Arab nation in the modern age, the American-Atlantic-Zionist aggression against brave Arab Iraq, our Palestinian people must once again, and in a tangible manner, prove to the enemies, to the traitor rulers who plotted against the Palestinians' fate, to the racist Zionists, to the imperialists, and to the killers of our children that the Palestinian people's historic stand in the position of jihad, led by mujahid Arab Saddam Husayn, was not a temporary position or the result of a circumstantial or emotional outburst.

The masses of the intifadah and the people of the sacred stones must once again prove that their joining of the trench of believers, the trench of Iraq, is a strategic position proceeding from an understanding and an awareness of the historic, inevitable, and intimate relations of struggle between Palestine and Iraq, and from an awareness of the slogans of the Mother of Battles, which raised a historical, legitimate, and pan-Arab demand, whether by calling for Arab unity and using the national wealth to serve pan-Arab wealth, or by linking the national struggle in every Arab country to the full and comprehensive liberation of Arab Palestine from the filth of the Zionist invaders.

The killers who gathered in the trench of atheism and aggression against Iraq must be made to understand that the youngest Palestinian stone-throwing child realizes that Iraq's victory in the Mother of Battles is a victory for him, that Iraq's steadfastness is strength for him, and that those who fought Iraq are his enemies. This child, therefore, has been raising these slogans and writing them on walls, decorating houses and public squares with Iraq's flags alongside the flags of Palestine, and with the pictures of the inspired Arab leader Saddam Husayn, the symbol of pan-Arab might and the leader of the gathering of faith.

On the eve of the aggression anniversary, and in response to the call of the pan-Arab conscience and the unity of fate, issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah, let the sacred revolution of stones flare; let it join Iraq's jihad for construction, declaring the need to break the criminal blockade against the people of Iraq and underscoring our mothers' cries of joy when the al-Husayn, al-'Abbas, and al-Hijarah missiles were fired.

Reconstruction of Facilities Continues

Iraqi Airways Flight Over Baghdad

JN1301175492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1722 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)—An Iraqi Airways plane took off from al-Muthanna Airport at 1600 today on the first trial flight over Baghdad in preparation for the resumption of Baghdad-al-Basrah domestic flights, which stopped because of the sinful American aggression and the unjust air embargo against Iraq.

Iraqi Airways Director General Nur-al-Din Safi Hammadi told INA that the airliner will make two trips daily between Baghdad and al-Basrah, the first at 0800 and the second at 1200.

Meanwhile, the technical teams of the State Enterprise for Executing Transport and Communications Projects have completed the first phase of reconstructing the buildings of al-Muthanna Airport.

Engineer Azhar 'Abd-al-Wahhab, the enterprise director general, said that in this phase, the passenger terminal, which consists of two halls for luggage inspection and reservations, two halls for arrivals and departures, and service and administrative rooms, was finished.

She said the teams will soon embark on the second phase, which includes building of a new passenger terminal at the airport.

Airport Repairs Continue

JN1401172092 Baghdad INA in English 1620 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 14, INA—Minister of Transport and Communications 'Abd-al-Sattar al-Ma'ini today opened the first stage of reconstructing and repair of facilities of al-Muthanna Airport in Baghdad dedicated for domestic flights.

The airport was exposed to heavy damages during the Zionist, Atlantic and American aggression on Iraq.

A ministry official said that technical cadres of the ministry started reconstruction works of the second stage which includes the two buildings for travelers and an observation tower.

This morning, an Iraqi Airways aircraft landed in the international airport of the southern Iraqi port city of al-Basrah on the first experimental flight between Baghdad and al-Basrah and preliminary to resuming flights between the two cities next Thursday. The Iraqi Airways director told INA that several Iraqi aircraft are being arranged for starting flights between Baghdad and al-Basrah and that another aircraft would fly from Baghdad to al-Basrah tomorrow morning before starting the transport of people next Thursday.

Civil aviation director said that all organs and navigational facilities in al-Basrah airport were arranged to offer the necessary services to people.

Domestic flights were suspended because of the economic sanctions and Iraq had already received a permission for operating domestic flights from the sanctions committee.

Phosphate Fertilizer Production Resumed

JN1401162892 Baghdad INA in English 1320 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 14, INA—Phosphates Department of the Ministry of Industry and Minerals has recently resumed phosphate fertilizers production after completing work on the first stage of the reconstruction project of the department.

The department sustained some 85 per cent damage during the U.S.-led war against Iraq.

Director-general of Industrial Design and Construction Engineering Company of the ministry Salah Yusuf told AL-THAWRAH daily the company's staff have reconstructed more than 20 buildings of 'Akashat phosphates complex in a record time of four months.

Mr. Yusuf said the staff have adopted new techniques in rebuilding and repairing the complex's facilities and buildings.

The staff have completed all civil engineering work, said the director, adding that they also repaired and maintained service facilities and iron structures, added the director.

Moreover, the company prepared designs and provided engineering consultancy as regards means to protect devices and equipment against damage.

In cooperation with the Fertilizer Projects Department, the Industrial Design and Construction Engineering Company provided consultancy on best means to treat and handle gypsum soil.

According to the director, the company's staff have reconstructed the raw materials unit, sulphuric acid and phosphoric plants. They also completed reconstruction work on the complex's storage depots and the 3rd water pumping station.

He added that the staff have completed some 150,000 square metres of roofing work with corrugated iron and repaired the iron structure.

Meanwhile, director-general of Phosphates Department was quoted by AL-THAWRAH daily as saying since ceasefire in the war, the department formed specialized committees to survey damage and lift debris.

He indicated that damage sustained by the department's facilities ranges between 40 and 100 per cent.

The reconstruction work of the department has started early in June, the director said, adding that the department's staff have rebuilt and reoperated compound fertilizer plant no. 2 in a record time, thanks to assiduous work and distinguished efforts.

He added that the staff also managed to repair and reactivate industrial services unit and compound fertilizer plant no. 1.

Government Said Ready To Settle Egypt Debts

JN1401183492 Amman AKHIR KHABAR in Arabic 13-20 Jan 92 p 5

[Text] In a letter addressed to the Egyptian Government and delivered through the PLO, Iraq has stated that shortly it will settle its outstanding debts with Egypt, which total $250 million, but in installments. The last installment will be paid before the end of 1992.

Similarly, the Iraqi Government committed itself to settling all dues owed Egyptian workers, and to transfer them to al-Rafidayn Bank and the National Bank in Cairo.

Kurds Urge Lifting of 'Unjust' Blockade

JN1101205192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jan (INA)—The Iraqi people in the Kurdistan Autonomous Region have denounced the perpetuation of the unjust economic blockade that has been imposed on Iraqi children, women, and elderly people.

Those participating in the march which proceeded today from the 'Ashtar Sheraton hotel toward the mission of the UN Development Program [UNDP] in Baghdad called for lifting the economic blockade imposed on the Iraqi people, a blockade that is unprecedented in history in terms of its viciouness and the vile objectives it seeks to attain.

In a memorandum to the UN secretary general they handed to the UNDP mission in Baghdad, the participants in the march affirmed that the time has come for the conscience of mankind to sense what is taking place

and for the voices of justice to be raised to denounce the wrongdoing and the injustice represented by the blockade which has killed thousands of Iraqis, mostly children and sick people because of the acute shortage in medicines and the basic daily subsistence needs that the unjust blockade has brought about.

Ahmad Baha' al-Din and Ja'far 'Abd-al-Karim al-Barzanji, heads of the legislative and executive councils of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region, participated in the march. Also participating were tribal chiefs and notables from the Hirkiyah, Zibari, Zankana, Talbani, al-Kuran, al-Kahi'iyah, al-Zandi, al-Dawudiyah, al-Surjiyah, al-Bura, al-Salihi, and al-Barzanji tribes, and national defense squad groups and a crowd of Kurdish citizens from the Kurdistan Autonomous Region. [names of tribes as received]

Paper on Kurds' 'Absolute Allegiance' to Saddam

JN1301151292 Baghdad INA in English 1405 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 13. INA—AL-IRAQ newspaper today said that our Kurdish people procession staged on Saturday in denunciation of the oppressive blockade imposed on Iraq was a blow to the enemies who try to harm the Iraqi people national unity and sovereignty.

A paper editorial here today said the procession came to confirm the genuinity of affiliation to Iraq from the north to the south in facing the intrigues and plots concocted by imperialism to degrade Iraq.

The paper said that our Kurdish people have once more confirmed absolute allegiance to President Saddam Husayn.

The Kurdish procession was staged in front of the U.N. Development Program office and embassies of the permanent members of the Security Council in Baghdad.

Barzani Says Blockade on Kurds Continues

NC0801180992 Paris AFP in English 1709 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Jan 8 (AFP)—Iraq has maintained its economic blockade on Kurdish regions in the north, a senior Kurdish leader has charged, warning that Kurds in the area could establish their own independent administration.

Mas'ud Barzani, head of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK), in an interview appearing here Wednesday in the newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, said "the blockade has not been lifted, despite our efforts."

Iraqi authorities imposed restrictions on food and fuel deliveries in late October on grounds that Kurdish parties controlling parts of northern Iraq could not assure the safety of government employees and officials.

The Kurdistan Front, a coalition of eight Kurdish opposition movements, was to meet Wednesday in northern Iraq "to consider action in the face of the blockade, which has already caused several deaths from cold and hunger," Barzani told the paper. "The Kurds will not opt for a military solution but they could be forced to set up local administrations in liberated parts of Kurdistan to handle public affairs," he warned. Iraqi authorities and Kurdish leaders have failed so far to agree on an autonomy plan for Kurdistan despite several rounds of talks that opened following a failed Kurdish rebellion that erupted last March.

International aid workers on December 21 reported that the Iraqi Army had approved the delivery of fuel and food to Kurdish zones for the first time in two months. Several days later Kurdish Front representatives went to Baghdad to negotiate a permanent lifting of the blockade but apparently without success.

Terms To End Embargo Said Rejected

NC1001195092 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Turkish 1630 GMT 9 Jan 92

[Text] Opposition leaders in Iraq have decided to reject the Saddam Husayn administration's terms for lifting the economic embargo against Iraqi Kurdistan. In a statement yesterday, Kurdish Front leader Muhammad Husayn said: We reject the terms; they are unacceptable.

Kurdish leaders say that the Saddam administration has made lifting the economic embargo against the Kurdistan region, which has been in effect for 10 months now, subject to the Kurds' allowing Iraqi military and security personnel to enter northern Iraq.

Barzani Comments on Autonomy Talks With Regime

PM0901154592 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Jan 92 p 1

[Report on interview with Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, by Huda al-Husayni in "Kurdistan;" date not given]

[Text] Kurdistan—Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan [DPK], has told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that he does not agree with those who claim that the negotiations between the Kurds and the Iraqi Government are deadlocked. He said that the differences between the two sides are mainly over "the boundaries of the Kurdish autonomy region," with the Iraqi side refusing to give up the town of Karkuk while the Kurdish side insists on keeping it. One idea, he said, is to postone discussion on the final status of Karkuk until a later stage to be agreed by the two sides. There is also a problem regarding the town of Khanaqin, which is near Tikrit (Saddam Husayn's birthplace) and Baghdad. The Iraqi side insists on keeping it for security reasons.

In an interview with him in Kurdistan, Barzani also said that that matter was negotiable, with a view to finding a compromise solution acceptable to both sides.

Barzani added that "regarding the Kurdish cities to which the Iraqi regime brought large numbers of Arabs to live, we cannot give them up even if the Iraqi side continues to insist on keeping them. They are originally Kurdish; their Kurdish populations, displaced and living in tents, should return to them, and they should be part of the autonomy region." This, he said, is not a stand "against the Iraqi Arabs. There are many Arabs who originally lived in Kurdish areas. They are rightful owners and we cannot possibly abandon them, but the Arabs brought in by the government must return to their original cities and villages."

On the blockade imposed on the Kurdish areas since 23 October, Barzani said that he saw it as "aggression." He added that during the negotiations they tried to ask the government to lift the blockade, but that has not happened so far. There is no need for it, he said.

He said that the political leadership of the Kurdistan Front will meet today to discuss ways of solving the problems resulting from the blockade, which has led to the death of many families from cold and starvation. The Kurds, he emphasized, will not resort to a military solution because they pin high hopes on the current negotiations, but they might set up local administrations in the "liberated" areas of Kurdistan to manage public affairs. On Saddam Husayn, Barzani said that he has restored his previous position and is firmly in control of power.

Opposition Says Regional Command Member Executed

NC0801183492 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] Nicosia, Jan 8 (AFP) - A senior member of the ruling Iraqi Ba'th Party was executed last month in Baghdad for refusing to put down a Shiite rebellion in southern Iraq last March, an Iraqi Shiite opposition movement charged Wednesday.

'Abd-al-Hasan Rahi'i Fir'awn, a member of the Ba'th regional (Iraqi) command, was suspended after the Gulf war last year, according to the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI).

The Tehran-based group, in a statement sent to AFP in Nicosia, said Rahi'i, himself a Shiite, was executed on December 27 under terms of a decree issued by President Saddam Husayn.

Citing well-informed sources in Iraq SAIRI alleged that Fir'awn's execution had been supervised by Husayn's two brothers, Interior Minister Watban Ibrahim al-Hasan and the head of the intelligence service, Sab'awi Ibrahim.

"Fir'awn had expressed his rejection (of) the military attacks launched by Saddam Husayn's troops on the Iraqi southern cities of Karbala', al-Najjaf, Hilla, al-Diwaniyah and al-Samawah," the statement said.

Opposition, Others Report Anti-Regime Acts

Attack on Ba'th Headquarters Kills 36

NC1401180392 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] On the night of 12 and 13 January, a valiant armed opposition detachment attacked Ba'th Party Headquarters on Filistin Street, killing 36 Ba'thist comrades. Our correspondent in the city of Baghdad reported that opposition forces killed the director of the al-A'zamiyah security department.

Party Members Killed, Wounded

NC1301184292 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Text] At 0700 on 9 January, an armed group attacked a car carrying a group of ruling Ba'th Party members in Mosul. Party comrade Kazim 'Ali Jasim and Muhammad 'Abdallah Hammudi were killed and a third person was injured in the attack. After the incident, the regime launched wide-scale arrests at the scene.

Meanwhile, tension prevails in the city of Tuz Khurmatu, where the regime's security, intelligence, and military police forces are deployed in Kurdish and Turkoman neighborhoods out of fear the situation will escalate. These forces storm citizens' homes and attack people at night.

Additional Operations Reported

NC1001170492 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1420 GMT 10 Jan 92

[Text] Our heroes have recently carried out the following successful operations against the heinous 'Aflaqite:

1. An 'Aflaqite car was blown up on a road leading to al-'Amarah Governorate, the one that the 'Aflaqites call Saddam's road. Four officers and two soldiers in the car were killed.

2. The 'Aflaqite barracks in Karbala' Governorate was attacked. The regime suffered heavy losses in both personnel and equipment.

3. A lair of the henchmen of the reckless Saddam was attacked in Hayy al-Mu'allimin in the sacred city of Karbala'. An 'Aflaqite officer received his just punishment during the attack and others were injured.

Our committed mujahidin will continue their heroic operations until Saddam is eliminated.

'Retribution' Against Regime Officials

NC1201163692 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1415 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] The Islamic revolution mujahidin in our Muslim Iraq have recently handed down just retribution against the following [word indistinct]:

1. [word indistinct] Mubarak [name indistinct], director of 'Aflaqite intelligence.

2. Criminal Ahmad Hasan al-Rawi, [words indistinct].

3. Criminal Brigadier General Riyad al-'Amir, one of Saddam's personal security officers.

4. A criminal brigadier general in Baghdad's al-Jadidah area.

5. Some 10 criminal 'Aflaqites, members of the so-called 'Aflaqite [word indistinct] group, were justly punished.

6. Our heroes carried out God's sentence against criminal [name indistinct], an 'Aflaqite party member who is in charge of the teachers association in al-Thawrah.

O heroic mujahidin: May God bless you and guide you to take revenge for our families plagued by Saddam and his aggressive henchmen.

Baghdad-Mosul Rail Line Disabled

LD1101171292 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] As a result of attacks by Iraqi dissidents on rail installations on the Baghdad-Mosul line, the line is now out of use and ground links between Baghdad and Mosul are facing disruption. According to the radio of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, Iraqi rail installations sustained extensive damage in the attack and the Baghdad-Mosul rail link has been completely closed during the past few days. The radio made no mention of the precise time and place of the attack.

Curfew in Mosul

NC1101202992 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1422 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] Since early last week, a curfew has been imposed on the city of Mosul. The curfew, imposed by the mercenaries of stupid Saddam, runs from 1900-0600.

In addition, the 'Aflaqite regime is rallying some of its defeated units around the city of Mosul in a sly attempt to empty the city of its residents, most of whom belong to our tribes, such as the al-Jubur and al-Suba, which reject the regime of stupid Saddam. Mosul has rejected the Baghdad dictator. The mercenaries are so afraid of the residents of that rebellious city that they seized the weapons of their regiments there [word indistinct] out of their fear that they would defect to the ranks of our rebellious people.

As part of their attempts to fragment and foment sedition among our people, the henchmen of stupid Saddam have once again violated the rights of our people in Karkuk by trying to expel our Kurdish and Turkoman people there. To encourage our people to leave Karkuk, the henchmen of the 'Aflaqite authorities employed threats, terror, and starvation. In addition, they forbade sons of Kurdish or Turkoman families from working in governorate government offices.

The criminal Saddam regime is also training its mercenaries in the use of chemical weapons against the sons of our people. Over 300 'Afalqite mercenaries have been trained in the use of chemical weapons in Khalid camp, in Karkuk Governorate. After training, they were taken to Shuwanah. We should mention that Shuwanah has witnessed courageous acts by our Kurdish revolutionaries in their operations to kick the 'Aflaqites out of Taqtaq and (?al- Shuwaykiyah).

Irbil Committee To Organize Relief

NC1201165192 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1415 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] Many ulema, preachers, and imams of mosques in northern Iraq attended an expanded meeting in Irbil to organize administrative affairs in northern Iraqi cities away from Saddam's dictatorship. The meeting discussed general developments in Iraq, particularly the internal situation in northern cities.

It was decided to set up a special committee to supervise relief work, education, and a health service for our people. Relief for Kurdish refugees who flee from Saddam's terrorism to the mountains and border areas are hampered by several factors, most importantly Saddam's siege of the homeland's northern part, the winter and the snow, which cut contacts with [word indistinct] refugee services. The meeting raised ways to remedy the deteriorating situation.

Saddam Said Spreading 'Corruption'

NC1101163892 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1422 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] In the past few days, and as part of the 'Aflaqite regime's attempts to undermine our true Islamic religion, the deviants who follow this criminal regime have been watching our mosques inside Karkuk, even arresting some of our sons after their prayers at the mosque. The henchmen of Saddam, the enemy of the people, took them to unknown locations. Their fate is still unknown.

In order to spread corruption and immorality among the sons of our Muslim people, Saddam has promised to provide 25,000 dinars to people who open liquor stores. Saddam's objective in encouraging people to open liquor stores is to increase corruption and immorality.

Exiles, Officials Against Saddam

PM1301153992 Jeddah SAUDI GAZETTE in English 8 Jan 92 pp 1,4

[Unattributed report: "Saddam Will Be Ousted—Ex-Envoy"]

[Excerpts] Riyadh, Tuesday [7 January] Ever since Saddam Husayn's overwhelming defeat in last year's

Gulf war, several factions within his country have launched unsuccessful attempts to oust him from power. But a group of ranking Iraqis working both outside Iraq and within the Baghdad regime itself have combined forces—and they are confident they can rid their government of the man at its helm.

The movement is not tied to opposition groups of Kurds in northern Iraq or Shi'ites in the south, but aims to bring about reform that would address the concerns of all Iraqis, Arshad Tawfiq, the former Iraqi ambassador to Spain, who fled his post last March to assist in the effort, told the GAZETTE.

"Our opposition group—if you want to call it that—is more effective than these factions because we are all people who have worked inside the government. We already know the system."

Tawfiq said many of those he coordinates with held high-level government positions but escaped the country in fear. The group also includes former diplomats and those still working in Iraqi embassies around the world.

"I'm sure even ambassadors and diplomats who are not actively working with us support what we are doing. But they must be very careful," he said. "Those who speak against Saddam Husayn put their family members still living in Iraq in grave danger."

The group is closely linked to prominent figures inside the government in Baghdad, "including key people inside the palace itself, whom we contact regularly."

The circle of activists differ from opposition groups in other countries because "we are not seeking a chair in the seat of government. We are only seeking to have our homes in our country and recreate an Iraq that cares for its people," Tawfiq said.

"Changing the government comes down to one technical matter; getting rid of one man—Saddam Husayn. That is why it's so easy and yet so difficult. Maybe it wil happen tomorrow. Maybe it will take many months. But it will happen."

Saddam Husayn has spent the past 20 years building a security structure around himself with people who both hate and revere him, he said. "That structure is very difficult to penetrate. Even his personal bodyguards are neither loyal nor trusted. But their careers and lives have been around him. To them he has taken on a kind of immortality, especially since the war was not enough to remove him." [passage omitted]

UN sanctions against Iraq are being used as a propaganda tool by Saddam Husayn, Tawfiq added. He is convincing the people that the world is blaming them for the war.

Whether to continue the sanctions is a difficult question, he said. The Iraqi people are innocently suffering. But if supplies were to enter the country They would simply be taken by the government.

The UN offer to allow Iraq to sell oil to purchase emergency supplies has been turned down. Tawfiq said that just prior to his departure in Madrid, the Spanish government offered to fly medicine and other humanitarian aid into Iraq. Again Saddam refused.

Dropping the sanctions would be useful only if the government oculd not gain access to incoming goods, Tawfiq said.

'Preparatory Committee' Reported

PM0801104492 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 6 Jan 92 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Preparatory Committee of Opposition Forces"]

[Text] London—SAWT AL-KUWAYT has obtained the names of the influential elements, parties, and personalities comprising the Preparatory Committee of the Iraqi opposition forces. They are as follows:

The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution; the Islamic al-Da'wah Party; the Iraqi Kurdistan Front; the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party-Iraqi Command; the Iraqi Communist Party; the Iraqi National Accord; the Free Iraq Council; the Independent Organization (Major General al-Naqib); Dr. Muhammad Bahr al-'Ulum; the Islamic Action Organization; the Iraqi Democratic Grouping; the People's Democratic Party of Kurdistan; the Union of Iraqi Democrats-London; the United Democratic party (Ahmad al-Habbubi); the National Reform Movement in Iraq; the Supreme Council of Iraqi Tribes; the Islamic Union of Iraqi Turkomen; the Assyrian Democratic Movement; the Socialist Party (Mubdir al-Wis); Dr. 'Abd-al-Ilah al-Nasrawi; the Islamic Movement in Kurdistan; the Free Officers movement; the Islamic Forces Grouping; the Socialist Party of Kurdistan; and the Democratic Union in the United States and Canada.

Six Hurt in Bus Attack on Ramallah-Nabulus Road

Shots Fired at Car, Bus

TA1401173492 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Six Israelis were wounded on the Ramallah-Nabulus road from shots fired at a bus and a private car. The wounded—three with slight and three with moderate injures—were taken to a hospital. Our military correspondent 'Ido Baum has more details:

Close to 1800 [1600 GMT] tonight, shots were fired at an Israeli bus driving along the Ramallah-Nabulus road in the vicinity of 'Ayn Siniyah in the Ramallah District. Several bullets hit the bus, and it is believed that several more hit the private car that was behind the bus. So far, six are known to have been wounded in the shooting incident; they have slight to moderate injuries. Ambulances took them to Jerusalem hospitals. As far as is known, three of the wounded were on the bus and three others in the car behind.

IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops have closed off the area and are combing it for the perpetrators. [passage omitted]

Shamir Urged To Recall Peace Delegation

NC1401182192 Paris AFP in English 1803 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Jerusalem, Jan 14 (AFP) - Six Israelis, including a six-year-old child and a soldier, were wounded Tuesday when gunmen fired on a bus and car on the occupied West Bank, an Army spokesman said.

He said two of the Israelis were seriously wounded, including the child who was hit in the stomach in the attack near the village of Ain Synia, north of Ramallah.

The assailants opened fire from a hill some 200 meters (yards) above the intersection linking Jerusalem to the Jewish settlement of Shilo, he added.

The wounded were rushed by helicopter and ambulance to Hadassa hospital in Jerusalem. All the passengers were from Shilo.

After the attack, the secretary of the Jewish communities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Uri Ariel, urged Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to recall the Israeli delegation to the bilateral Middle East peace talks currently under way in Washington and end its participation in the negotiations.

Palestinian gunmen have killed eight Israelis in the occupied territories since 1991.

Attack 'Spoiled' Peace Atmosphere

TA1401200392 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Seven residents of Judaea and Samaria were injured this evening when shots were fired at a bus from an ambush near Bi'r Zayt. Two of the injured are children, one of whom was seriously injured. The casualties were rushed to Jerusalem hospitals.

The forum of settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza called on the defense minister to resign and on the right-wing parties to quit the government immediately. The Peace Now Movement condemned the attack and the Arab extremists who make every effort to torpedo the peace process. At the same time the movement warned the settlers against violent acts that might make the situation worse.

The report about the attack spoiled the atmosphere in the Washington peace talks. Elyaqim Rubinstein condemned the perpetrators, saying that it is impossible that the same people conduct peace negotiations and carry out terror attacks simultaneously.

'Hundreds' Try To Set Up 3 New Settlements

'Secret' Overnight Operation

TA1501061792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Hundreds of Jewish settlers have gathered at three sites in the territories in an attempt to set up three new settlements. The sites are in Hebron, a site north of Ramallah close to Dolev, and in the Gaza Strip close to Dayr al-Balah. The settlers' action follows last night's terrorist ambush north of Ramallah in which seven people were injured. Mark Weiss reports:

[Begin Weiss recording] The secret overnight operation involving hundreds of settlers was coordinated by Amana, the settlements wing of Gush Emunim. About 250 settlers have gathered at Tall al-Rumaythah in Hebron. Close to Kfar Darom in the Gaza Strip, a caravan has been brought to the site where settler Doron Shorsham was killed recently and some 200 settlers from the Gaza Strip have gathered around the caravan. The third site is close to the settlement of Dolev near Ramallah, next to the army outpost that was established by the road where settler Ya'ir Mendelsohn was killed last year. Settler leaders said such activity is the appropriate Zionist response to terrorist attacks.

Meanwhile, villages close to the site of the ambush north of Ramallah have been under curfew since the shooting as security forces continue their attempt to find the terrorists. Two of those injured last night remain in serious condition at Jerusalem's Hadassah 'En-Kerem Hospital. Dozens of settlers demonstrated last night outside the home of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Before arriving at the prime minister's residence they also protested close to the East Jerusalem home of Faysal

al-Husayni. A separate demonstration was held outside the home of Defense Minister Arens, where dozens of settlers called for the minister to resign because they claim the authorities cannot maintain security in the territories. The settlers also threatened through loudspeakers to take matters into their own hands if there was no appropriate response from the government. In Ramallah, settlers smashed windows and painted graffiti on the home of Riyad al-Maliki, one of the leaders of the Popular Front in the territories. [end recording]

This morning Jewish settlers are blocking roads in the territories in a number of points and are holding special prayer protests following last night's shooting attacks. One of the roads blocked is to the headquarters of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, just north of Jerusalem.

Knesset's Kohen at 'Fourth Outpost'

TA1501071992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The settlers this morning set up a fourth outpost in reaction to the shooting attack on the bus near 'Ayn Siniyah. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that two mobile homes were brought to the vicinity of Nabi Samu'il, north of Jerusalem. Knesset Member Ge'ula Kohen also arrived at the site. [passage omitted]

Fifth Outpost Set Up

TA1501114492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Jewish settlers this morning established five new outposts in the territories in response to the yesterday's bus shooting. Knesset Members [MK's] Ge'ula Kohen and Mikha'el Eytan of Tehiya and Likud parties arrived at one of the outposts a short while ago at Giv'at Ze'ev north of Jerusalem to prevent soldiers from evacuating the settlers. Residents of the settlement of Shilo demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office this morning. Miryam Herschlag reports:

Seven victims of last night's shooting remain in Jerusalem hospitals. The two who were seriously wounded, seven-year-old Yotam Berkovitz and 35-year-old Tzvi Shavit, are in stable condition after undergoing surgery. Settlers reacted this morning by throwing up civilian outposts at five locations. Two mobile homes were placed in Giv'at Ze'ev in north Jerusalem. Likud MK Mikha'el Eytan has taken up residence in one of them. Tehiya's Ge'ula Kohen also visited that site. One caravan was placed near Tall al-Rumaythah. Tehiya MK Elyaqim Ha'etzni arrived there to show solidarity.

Attempts to place mobile homes are also underway near Dolev where a Jewish resident was murdered last year, and at the Nahal outpost Ginat north of Janin where the army is blocking entry to settler vehicles. Finally, in the Gaza Strip, the army is set to remove a settlement attempt at Kfar Darom where Doron Shorsham was killed two weeks ago. [passage omitted]

IDF Evicts Settlers From Ginat, Detains 20

TA1501134692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Army has forcibly evacuated settlers from Ginat, north of Janin, and has declared the site a closed military zone. About 20 settlers have been taken to the Janin police station for questioning. The mobile home they placed on the site has been removed to the Megiddo junction.

Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that two families moved into two mobile homes in the Yad Ya'ir outpost, near the settlement of Dolev. The two mobile homes are still on the truck that brought them to the site. One of the families is the family of Ya'ir Mendelson, who was murdered at that site a year ago.

Shamir To Meet With Right-Wing Leaders 15 Jan

No 'Serious' Talk of Autonomy

TA1401211892 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Report by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik]

[Text] It may be odd, but progress in Washington is gradually leading to the downfall of the Israeli Government. Tomorrow, the prime minister will meet with the ministers of the Tehiya and Moledet movements, upon their request. This may be his last chance to persuade them not to quit, to convince them that no serious discussion of autonomy—self-rule in the territories—with the Palestinians is under way. The inner cabinet session, scheduled for tomorrow to debate the issue of autonomy, was canceled today by the prime minister. Minister Yuval Ne'eman is still cautious this evening, but Minister Rehav'am Ze'evi has already sharply attacked the Likud's lack of credibility and announced that he will resign on Sunday, unless it is proven to him that the media reports are unfounded.

We may add some facts to be pondered that bear upon on this issue: The Israelis indeed presented the Palestinians with a two- page document, the precise heading of which reads: An Interim Arrangement for Self-Rule in Gaza, Judaea, and Samaria. The document contains outlines of topics for discussion, similar to a listing of a book's contents. The team in Washington has so far been careful not to discuss these issues in detail, stressing again that it is all unofficial.

This document will perhaps be presented tomorrow to the right- wing ministers, and they will finally have to decide where they are headed.

Yitzhaq Shamir today announced that there has been progress in the peace negotiations and that he is determined to make additional progress. That is because the

prime minister today needs, most of all, the U.S. guarantees for loans for immigrant absorption. To this end, he needs a government and peace discussions that are not stuck. That means there will be talk about autonomy, but no debate on it will be held until next month, when the issue of the guarantees will, perhaps, be resolved.

This evening's attack might exacerbate the government crisis. Minister Ze'evi has already called on the prime minister to immediately stop the discussions with the Palestinians and to call our delegates home, for as long as murder attempts continue in the territories.

Tehiya, Moledet Mull Bolting Coalition

TA1501124092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] After meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Tehiya and Moledet leaders announced that they would ask their movements to decide whether to leave the government. Rehav'am Ze'evi said he would recommend to his party to leave the government while Minister Yuval Ne'eman said that the document presented to the Palestinians still requires further study.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that in their meeting, the prime minister handed both ministers the document presented to the Palestinian team by the Israeli delegation in Washington. After the meeting, Minister Ze'evi said that he is sticking to his position that the negotiating process must be halted and early elections declared. The main dispute between Prime Minister Shamir and Ministers Ne'eman and Ze'evi is over Clause 4 in the document presented to the Palestinians, which refers specifically to self- government for the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. Due to that wording, Ze'evi will recommend to his party to bolt the coalition.

Early Vote 'Reasonable' if Right Leaves

TA1501100492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 13 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Yosi Ahime'ir, the director of the prime minister's bureau, said that Yitzhaq Shamir would not agree to head a minority government which depended on a security net put up by the Alignment. This is not a circus and we do not rely on such a security net, Ahime'ir said. He also said that it is reasonable to assume that if Moledet and Tehiya leave the coalition, Mr. Shamir will decide on early elections. [passage omitted]

Leftists To Back Government If Right Goes

TA1501062892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Three opposition parties—the Citizens Rights Movement [CRM], MAPAM [United Workers Party], Shinuy—say that if Tehiya and Moledet leave the government, the three will prevent its fall provided they see the possibility of progress in the peace process. Representatives of the CRM, Shinuy, and MAPAM will meet today to draw up a joint position. Knesset Member Yosi Sarid of the CRM, speaking on behalf of all three, said support for the government was contingent on whether Prime Minister Shamir would submit to the Palestinians an autonomy program and conduct full-fledged discussions on it.

Settler Leader Vows To Fight Autonomy

TA1401190992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Beni Katzover, head of the Samaria Regional Council, this evening made harsh remarks regarding the developments in Washington. According to him, we have to prepare for the threat entailed in the autonomy:

[Begin Katzover recording] If electric power is handed over to the autonomy council, instead of having a Jewish housewife waiting for two or three weeks until they do her a favor and connect her house to the grid so that her washing machine or refrigerator will work again, we will take over that power plant. The same goes for the Arab police. We will allow no Arab police to supervise us, handle our affairs, or deal with our traffic. We will simply clash with them. The minute such a clash occurs, the State of Israel will have to take matters back into its hands. That is the exact opposite of autonomy, which is supposed to give them the authority. We will not only refuse to recognize any authority given to the Arabs; we will not accept it. Eventually, what this really means is that we will clash with it. [end recording]

Sharon Proposes 'Neutralizing' Autonomy Plan

TA1501064792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon proposes neutralizing the autonomy plan by annexing all the areas in the territories in which there are Jewish settlements. In an interview with Qol Yisra'el, Minister Sharon stressed that he would continue to struggle in every way possible to stop the autonomy plan. He believes the plan is very dangerous and will bring about the establishment of a Palestinian state in the very heart of Israel. Minister Sharon also claims that the way the negotiations are going in Washington is wrong. He said that the negotiations are dealing with marginal issues and are not pushing the United States to deal with the two main issues, the Arabs' increasing capability to produce nuclear arms and the growing procurement of weapons by the Arab states.

U.S. Satellite Survey Shows Extent of Settlements

TA1401212992 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Jan 92 p A1

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] In preparation for the deliberations on Israel's request for U.S. guarantees for loans for immigrant absorption, the United States has recently completed a detailed satellite survey of Israeli construction works and expansion of settlement activities in the territories. The main conclusion of the survey is that in 1991 the extent of construction in the territories was double, or perhaps more, than last year's.

The decision to conduct the survey was apparently made after the U.S. representatives had received stalling responses to their request for information about the extent of Israel's investments in the territories and about the nature and location of the construction. The replies the government ministries provided were vague and conflicting. Washington, therefore, decided to obtain the information on its own.

The intelligence information the United States obtained indicates that, in fact, Jerusalem violated its promises to Washington. The promises were given to the United States orally by Israeli leaders and officials and in Foreign Minister David Levi's letter to Washington when the administration granted Israel loan guarantees to the tune of $400 million. Israel promised that in 1991 it would not build in the territories more than the year before, and that the extent of construction beyond the Green Line would not exceed the average construction rates inside it.

Unofficially, U.S. officials have said that Washington must not believe Jerusalem's promises on this issue. They also wonder why the prime minister keeps silent when Minister Sharon keeps saying that everything his ministry does in the territories is done with the approval and knowledge of the prime minister.

The White House and the State Department are convinced that the information they now posses will tip the scale in favor of the administration during the negotiations about the conditions of the guarantees and in the public debate that will accompany them. It is believed in Washington that the satellite survey will provide the administration with broader support in Congress and even in the Jewish community in the United States.

It appears that the U.S. Administration does not intend to refuse to grant the guarantees altogether, but will peg to them some stern conditions and will discuss only part of the sum for a period of one year. Apparently, the United States is not seeking a direct clash with Israel, but will not refrain from a public debate.

Justice Minister on Israeli Proposals at Talks

TA1401171392 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Telephone interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor at the Knesset by Mikha Friedman—live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] Good evening, Justice Minister Dan Meridor. You are at our studio at the Knesset, where this government's fate may be determined this coming Monday [20 January, when Labor's no-confidence motion will be put to vote].

Now, Ministers Ne'eman and Ze'evi feel—and from their viewpoint, they may be right—that the prime minister is simply and unmistakably hoodwinking them. Has the Israeli delegation to Washington offered—or will it offer—the Palestinians an interim arrangement for Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza; that is to say, autonomy?

[Meridor] Your own IDF Radio has reported on proposals relayed by the Israeli delegation; what was proposed was an agenda. That, however, is not the main thing. Does anyone entertain any doubt as to the government's policy? The promotion of the peace process is our main preoccupation. The factions and ministers who joined the government knew our guidelines, and yet they undertook to join the government, the policy of which was known to them. When they joined, they were granted a right to express reservations, but no more.

I sincerely hope that we are seriously striding toward peace. The government's policy is well known: It will offer autonomy as an arrangement with the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza in accordance with the Camp David accords and several government resolutions to that effect. I see no room for surprise. I hope we will make progress toward that move.

I would like to add something: The government's integrity, and perhaps its ability to enjoy a majority, is being threatened, but a government should not be sustained for the sole purpose of maintaining ministerial posts. That is no reason. A government is sustained so that it can act, and no action is more important than the promotion of the peace process. I think the peace process should be promoted along the plan we have outlined, which does not involve our separation from parts of Eretz Yisra'el. It merely involves self-rule and autonomy in accordance with the Camp David accords. That is our raison d'etre, and we should pursue that course of action if we can. [passage omitted]

We waited years for this significant moment of negotiations, and yet what we have is depression and constant fretting. Of course the negotiations are difficult, but we are walking a very important path. We are promoting a move that constitutes an immense achievement for Israel, for the Israeli Government and its policy. We are moving toward a process based on our own proposal, which involves an interim arrangement for autonomy, and although the latter may not have been submitted this week, we may start discussing substance at the next meeting....

[Friedman, interrupting] Perhaps even tonight?

[Meridor] There probably will be another meeting tonight, but I do not know what will happen there. We have proposed an agenda, and the Arab side has submitted a counterproposal. I do not know what will happen tonight, whether they will reach a point at which

content can be discussed, but the question of a date—whether next week or in a month—is immaterial. No one should entertain any doubt: We have placed on our agenda a matter of supreme interest to the Israeli people: the promotion of the peace process in accordance with the Israeli plan, without endangering our security and without detracting from the validity of our policy's foundations. We have been able to promote that plan step by step, with confidence and with minimal risk, and there is no reason to deviate from that path.

[Friedman] In that case, it is either government or autonomy. Judging by the very clear picture you have drawn, the two cannot coexist.

[Meridor] I regret to say that I still do not see autonomy materializing because before we can implement it our way, protracted and arduous negotiations will be required. We will need to show a lot of initiative, assertiveness when necessary, and flexibility when possible. We will have to be unafraid to stand alone, so that eventually we may attain the autonomy we had envisaged, an autonomy that does not endanger our security or injure our principles. That will not happen tomorrow. Anyone who wants to quit the government because of electoral motives and is looking for pretexts will find them. The serious and caring people—and I am certain all the people alluded to here are serious and caring, people who care about Eretz Yisra'el and Israel's security—will contribute much more to the promotion of negotiations inside the government than they will outside. [passage omitted]

Concern Over Russian-Syrian Arms Deal Expressed

TA1401130392 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Jan 92 p 2

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] High-level sources in Jerusalem last night voiced concern about Russia's plans to sell $2 billion worth of advanced weapons to Syria and basically confirmed a report to this effect published over the weekend in the London weekly AL-HAYAT.

The sources noted that Israel is closely monitoring the close military ties between Russia and Syria, which have continued at a high level even after the disbandment of the Soviet Union. The sources pointed out that Foreign Minister David Levi intends to raise this issue with the Russian Government during his visit to Moscow at the end of the month.

The sources confirmed that negotiations are under way between Damascus and Moscow over the sale of large quantities of advanced weapons, such as aircraft, tanks, and antiaircraft missiles. As far as Jerusalem knows, Syria will pay for the weapons in cash with the money it received from the Gulf countries during and at the end of the war with Iraq.

According to AL-HAYAT, the arms deal includes an unknown quantity of T-72 tanks (which have apparently have been delivered to Syria already), as well as 48 MiG-29's, 24 Sukhoi-24's, SAM-10's, and SAM-11's. The Russians have claimed in the past that the SAM-10's can be effectively used to intercept surface-to-surface missiles.

Meanwhile, Israeli Ambassador to Russia Arye Levin continues with his tour of the former USSR republics in a bid to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. So far, he has signed agreements for the establishment of relations with the Ukraine and the Baltic republics. He will complete his job within the next few days, when he agrees on the establishment of relations with the Muslim republics of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Arens on Gulf War Aftermath, Iraqi 'Threat'

TA1501081092 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Gay Zohar and Li'ora Lanir on 15 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Zohar] The first question we posed to the defense minister is whether today, 15 January, our situation is good, at least from the point of view of the Iraqi threat, compared to that a year ago.

[Arens] I do not think that there is a single answer to that question. If you limit your question to the Iraqi threat, then I believe we can respond affirmatively.

[Zohar] Despite the missile launchers which have remained?

[Arens] Yes, and I will explain why. Because Iraq's conventional military capability today is significantly reduced compared to what it was prior to the Gulf war. That is to our benefit.

[Lanir] Although we then suffered a great deal from the missile threat, we also hear from you that very few of the launchers were destroyed. Does that mean the threat remains?

[Arens] Yes, the threat exists. I believe we cannot totally rule out—although the chances are very low—that were a war to break out once again in the region as a result of U.S. military moves against Iraq, it has the capability to launch missiles against us. That is not impossible. I am only saying that if you ask whether the situation has improved then it is clear that he now has fewer missiles than he had then. His army is smaller than it was then.

[Lanir] To a very significant extent?

[Arens] His army is significantly smaller. He still has a large army, but compared to the almost 5,000 tanks he had then, I believe he now has perhaps 2,500. That is half, which is significant. Perhaps more important than everything else are the achievements—if they can be

called achievements—he had in the development of weapons systems. We now know that Saddam Husayn was very close to securing nuclear weapons. That has been stopped. I would say that is also a clear gain from our viewpoint.

[Lanir] Is there not a feeling that his rehabilitation process is much greater than we thought it would be? In other words, even if his conventional weapons capability is lower, his ability to rehabilitate his military situation is much faster than had been assumed.

[Arens] I would not say so. I believe that his ability to survive is perhaps much higher than people had expected. Many, including the U.S. Administration, had thought that after the blows he received Saddam would not be able to survive. I believe that was one of the assumptions that led them to stop the fighting on the fifth or sixth day of the ground fighting, assuming that he was finished. He is not finished. A year has passed and he now claims he won the war, and there are those in the Arab world who believe he is right. [passage omitted]

[Lanir] Do you not regret that we did not retaliate?

[Arens] First of all, we were about to react—it is not as though we decided not to respond. We planned and trained on an action, not only as retaliation, but an attack which would have harmed Iraqi's capability to threaten us. I do not believe that we can say it would have destroyed the threat, but it would have certainly reduced it. To conclude, I say that had the war continued another few days or a week, then the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] would have operated in western Iraq. Had the war continued another week Israel would have taken action. If you ask me whether I regret that the war ended a week too early, then I say yes, I regret it, from all points of view.

Ofeq-3 Satellite To Be Launched 'Soon'

TA1501065092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The Israel Aircraft Industries will soon launch Ofeq-3, our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports. It will be the first launch of this type of satellite, whose development was speeded up after the Gulf war. Our correspondent notes that Defense Minister Moshe Arens pointed out that one of the lessons of the Gulf war was Israel's urgent need for a military spy satellite. The project was also incorporated in the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] multiyear work plan.

Levi in Lisbon, Notes Europe Role in Peace Talks

TA1401141292 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Jan 92 p 1

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] Speaking in Lisbon yesterday, Foreign Minister David Levi said he believes Israel and the Palestinians will reach an agreement on the establishment of autonomy by the end of this year. He said the Israeli delegations in Washington had been "instructed by the political level to remove the obstacles and proceed to enter discussions of substance."

Levi made these remarks following a meeting with Portuguese Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro, which dwelt mainly on Europe's role in the multilateral conference scheduled to open in Moscow at the end of the month. According to a press release issued by the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem last night, Pinheiro subscribed to Israel's position that a clear distinction should be made between the political issues discussed in the bilateral negotiations and the issues pertaining to regional development, which will be discussed in Moscow.

Levi told Pinheiro, the current chairman of the EC's "troika," that the European countries would be able to participate in the deliberations of the multinational conference on an individual basis, according to the projects and working teams decided upon in the course of the conference.

The Foreign Ministry's communique states that Pinheiro told Levi that Europe subscribes to Israel's position about the need for, and the chances of, "building confidence among the peoples of the Middle East through cooperation and regional projects." Pinheiro said that the EC wants to participate in the planning, development, and funding of the regional projects that will be decided upon. Pinheiro described the current peace process as "a historic opportunity that should not be missed." Replying to a journalist's question about Europe's role in the process, Pinheiro said that the EC would be making its best contribution to the substantive bilateral talks "by not interfering."

Pinheiro promised Levi that the EC's presidency would recommend changes and improvements in the Israeli-EC treaties as "called for by the changes that have taken place in the economies of Europe and Israel since 1975," when the original treaties were signed.

Israel and Portugal also agreed to promote bilateral commercial and economic ties through the exchange of high-level delegations that would examine possibilities for cooperation and joint ventures, including cooperation between Israel and Portugal in Africa.

Abu-Jabir Invited to Moscow Multilateral Talks

JN1501102092 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir received the U.S. and Russian ambassadors in his office this morning. They conveyed to him an invitation addressed to Jordan to attend the multilateral negotiations to be held in Moscow on 28 and 29 January.

The invitation stressed that the multilateral negotiations are not an alternative to the bilateral negotiations, but rather a continuation of them; that they do not seek to avoid discussion of the principles on which Resolutions 242 and 338 are based; and that they will provide an opportunity for parties concerned outside of the Middle East region to contribute to the success of the peace process.

Issues pertaining to the region's countries and peoples—disarmament, regional security, economic development, water, environment, and other issues—are to be discussed at the multilateral negotiations.

King on Peace Process, Arab Relations

JN1501102892 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jan 92 p 12

[Interview with King Husayn by the London-based AL-HAYAH; date and place not given]

[Text] [AL-HAYAH] How far has the peace process progressed since the Madrid conference and why is Jordan placing emphasis on the multilateral negotiations and insisting on participating in them despite the explicit Syrian reservations?

[Husayn] With respect to the various stages of the negotiations, and as we have expected, the beginning of the process is arduous and will need much time. We will wait and see. We are following closely what is taking place in Washington, but we cannot predict the results of this stage. Perhaps there is some progress and results will become clearer soon.

As for the expanded conference, from our point of view and according to our assessment, it is the closest thing to, or even better than, the international conference we have been calling for for years. We believe that it can settle the issue in all of its real dimensions.

[AL-HAYAH] Specifically, what dimensions?

[Husayn] The conference is far bigger than the one we, as an Arab nation, have been calling for. It will be held in the presence and with the participation of the five permanent UN Security Council members, Europe, Canada, Japan, and the fraternal countries in the region. I believe that an opportunity will arise there for a discussion of subjects and topics that cannot be discussed or tackled within the bilateral framework currently under way. There will be room for tackling everything that pertains to the Palestinian brothers, not only the Palestinians residing inside [the territories] but the owners of the cause and those who have rights in general. There it might be possible to address the issue of Jerusalem. This is the very thing that could be one of the reasons prompting us to raise this concept. We view Jerusalem as the entity that was occupied in 1967. When the world refers to Jerusalem, it has in mind the status of the holy places and the Holy City. When Israel speaks about Jerusalem, it practically speaks about one-fifth of the occupied West Bank, although the world has not adopted this Israeli version and has not accepted the measures Israel has taken in this part of the occupied territories. That is why there would be room to submit this issue at the conference to which we are referring, in addition to discussing all of the other dimensions that are of importance to everyone in this region.

[AL-HAYAH] You mentioned a very important point—the status of the Palestinians outside the occupied territories. You recently spoke about a proposal to grant dual nationality to the Palestinians in the Arab countries which host them. How do you visualize a solution?

[Husayn] Concerning the Palestinian cause and Palestinians outside [of the occupied territories], there are, of course, UN resolutions on repatriation and compensation.

The Israelis may raise the issue of Jews who have left many Arab countries and moved to Israel. One could approach this issue by proposing to them to return to the countries they have left. I do not know how this situation will be addressed, but it should be dealt with. It is illogical for the Palestinians in the occupied territories to discuss the history of the Palestinian cause, for the scope of this issue goes beyond the occupied territories and concerns a people who have suffered for many long years.

There is also another aspect. I am not speaking here only of Jordan. I am speaking about Jordan with all of its sons, irrespective of their origins. Is it logical that the Israeli enjoys Israeli nationality and that of another country? Is it logical for the situation with respect to the Palestinians, Arabs in an Arab homeland, to remain as it is? More than 300,000 Palestinians have returned to Jordan over the past year, many of whom have served in parts of the Arab homeland for generations without gaining any rights. Such a state of affairs needs to be addressed so that these people may enjoy stability and obtain rights.

[AL-HAYAH] Would that be tackled on the level of the multilateral negotiations?

[Husayn] With regard to human rights issues, they must be tackled within the framework of the Arab world, although we would like to be in agreement with the world. We must tackle these issues with or without the world's participation in what we must do. However, we

must move and move quickly. Here I am talking specifically about Kuwait. There have been 300,000 returnees since the Iraqi forces entered Kuwait.

[AL-HAYAH] Why is there an absence of high-level Jordanian-Syrian coordination, while there is high-level Syrian-Palestinian and Jordanian-Palestinian coordination?

[Husayn] We always have been the advocates of coordination and cooperation. In my opinion, coordination does not mean adopting positions and insisting on them. Rather, it means opening the door for a dialogue that will lead to the required results and to agreement on the broad lines along which we must proceed. No one can deny that from the first moments we called for coordination.

Our relationship with Syria is firm, strong, and normal. It has been the same under all circumstances and in all times. Moreover, our relationship on the level of leaders always has continued; it has never been severed at any time.

Coordination, however, must not only be Syrian-Jordanian. There also must be Arab coordination—something which, with deep regret, we have not yet done.

[AL-HAYAH] What happened to the meeting that was supposed to take place between you and President Mubarak before the Dakar summit?

[Husayn] It certainly did not take place.

[AL-HAYAH] Why? Did a secret meeting take place in Amman?

[Husayn] Such a meeting did not take place in Amman or in any other place.

[AL-HAYAH] Why did this meeting not take place?

[Husayn] Ask others.

[AL-HAYAH] What is your position with regard to moving the talks to the region? What about the possibility of moving the talks to Turkey, as has been reported?

[Husayn] I believe that we must not precede events. Now we are talking about Washington and the United States. There could be an inclination to change the venue. However, we believe that we must focus on the issues that must be discussed, and that we must make progress before considering any change of venue. This has been our inclination, and in our opinon, it is still the best way for tackling issues. As for constantly moving from one place to another, that is in fact a difficult and arduous process. At any rate, our opinion is part of the opinions that will be solidified with regard to the venue of the talks.

We believe that modern technology provides the means of communication. We also believe that moving the talks to the region is illogical, meaning a move of the talks to the parties to the conflict at this stage. It is illogical for Palestinian-Israeli negotiations to be held under the ongoing occupation. Turkey is among the countries mentioned by some people.

[AL-HAYAH] Jordan and the Arab countries have agreed to participate in the negotiations on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace. Do you have an official U.S. explanation of Resolution 242? Does your acceptance of the negotiations mean that you expect their natural and inevitable result to be the implementation of the two resolutions?

[Husayn] We, of course, are discussing a solution based on the implementation of the two Security Council resolutions. Resolution 338 calls for a dialogue such as the current one. The first part of Resolution 242 deals with the territories occupied in June 1967. Jordan and Egypt accepted the Security Council resolution when it was issued, and at that time, we had a conception about the U.S. position. At any rate, all interpretations, and all that we have received over the past years, specifically since 22 November 1967, indicate that the (territories) are at the disposal of the Palestinian and Arab brothers.

[AL-HAYAH] Do you agree with those who believe that the old Arab order is now over—the Arab order you always have talked about, especially during the Iraqi-Iranian war?

[Husayn] I, in fact, have talked about the Arab homeland, the Arab man, and the Arab right in this homeland. I have talked about the aspirations of the Arab nation in this great homeland. I believe that the current state of affairs constitutes a transitional stage from one situation to another. We can never say that it is a 100 percent satisfactory state of affairs.

[AL-HAYAH] Do you believe we are going through a transitional stage?

[Husayn] I believe so.

[AL-HAYAH] How do you view the new direction?

[Husayn] The right thing to do is to concentrate more on participation in shouldering the responsibility throughout the Arab world, to try to rebuild our structure on the basis of mutual respect, and to achieve integration. When I talk about a transitional stage, I refer to the circumstances under which we are currently living. But, of course, things have changed from the old concept of a united Arab nation to this new situation and to the situation we must reach. It is clear that there is an adherence to an individual identity in every part of the Arab world, but I believe—and I have discussed this in the past—that the best method, perhaps, is to try to achieve integration through respect of man and his rights, through participation in responsibility, and through cooperation. I believe, for instance, that the EC has achieved a great deal. Things in common among us are supposed to be greater than those among the EC, regardless of Europe's size, history, and capabilities.

Europe's integration has become an obvious fact. We might have that in the future and we might achieve what they have achieved.

[AL-HAYAH] How do you view developments in Jordan since the 1989 elections?

[Husayn] I view them with satisfaction. We have been able to overcome circumstances we never thought we would have to face, even in our wildest dreams. But through cohesion among everyone, through the participation of everybody in shouldering responsibility, and through clear vision, we were able, thank God, to pass a test we thought we would not be able to pass. We are marching ahead and, God willing, we will serve, as time passes, as a model for brothers to follow. They may choose a different model, but this is the way leading to stability, peace, and progress.

[AL-HAYAH] It is noted that this method has enabled Jordan to evade the storm that hit the region. But how do you evaluate the situation in Algeria, where the experience has complicated things more than expected?

[Husayn] I am neither able nor entitled to evaluate the Algerian experience, because I do not know all of the details. At this point, we do not know what is taking place in that fraternal country. But we hope that it will pass the current stage and move toward the future. We wish Algeria what we wish for ourselves and for all of our brothers—a future of stability, development, and cooperation among everyone. As regards Jordan, the picture is good and encouraging. In fact, the entire exercise had been planned before the 1989 incidents took place in this country.

Concerning the elections, it was not possible to hold them before the legal and administrative disengagement of ties with the West Bank, which we made in response to Palestinian and Arab demand. Immediately after the disengagement decision, we concentrated on the elections and on the democratic process.

We faced an economic problem, which was a result of our position and our responsibilities. We are the other part of the equation: While Israel is supported materially, politically, economically, militarily, and with manpower, Jordan is at the receiving end for all of the negative consequences. But, thank God, we have managed to coexist with the circumstances hindering our march. We had expected our brothers to support us, but their own circumstances did not allow them to do so, except for Saudi Arabia, which met all of its obligations. We, therefore, had a debt problem and the debt, practically, was equal to the amount of money we were expecting to receive. There were painful incidents triggered by the public's shock when they learned about the situation through which we were going. We went ahead with our national elections. There was also another dimension, that of the National Charter. We chose a royal commission to formulate the charter through dialogue among the various schools of thought in this country, from far left to far right. Thank God, the charter has been shaped up. We are now working to turn it into a reality in our life—political pluralism and insistence on respect for human rights, first and foremost respecting the Constitution.

[AL-HAYAH] What are the possibilities of dissolving the House of Representatives in light of recent regional developments?

[Husayn] There is absolutely no intention to dissolve the House of Representatives. We are now in the process of making the charter a reality in our life. The House is currently in its third year, and it usually remains for four years. At this stage, there is no intention to take any measure regarding the House of Representatives. The experiment may be incomplete, but we are proceeding toward our objectives through dialogue and joint action.

[AL-HAYAH] Do you think that the Palestinian leadership is more mature than before in dealing with the current phase vis-a-vis your long experience?

[Husayn] We believe that there is Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation of which we are extremely proud. We also believe that there is, regrettably, a reality we are experiencing that compels us to depend on ourselves—Palestinians and Jordanians—while hoping to gain support from our brothers.

[AL-HAYAH] What about your relations with Iran? Will Iranian President 'Ali Hashemi-Rafsanjani visit Jordan?

[Husayn] Yes. We have been informed that the Iranian president has accepted our invitation to visit Jordan. A date for the visit has not been fixed yet. It will, however, take place in the near future, God willing.

[AL-HAYAH] How do you assess the situation in Lebanon?

[Husayn] God willing, all good will result. This is what we hope for and this is our constant position.

[AL-HAYAH] There are some who stress that the current Israeli Government is doing its best to thwart the peace process by escalating its measures against the Palestinians in the occupied territories, by continuing to build settlements, and by violating international law. Do you agree that the current government will not accept the implementation of international legitimacy, and that the Arab parties must wait until after the coming Israeli elections for a new Israeli government?

[Husayn] This in an internal issue related to Israel, and I cannot comment on it. I can say, however, that the picture has changed as follows:

In the past, Israel used to think that it was in the forefront and was the forward position for protecting the interests of one of the camps in the world. The second camp has vanished, and the features of the picture have changed. I believe that Israel now cannot sell its position and situation as it did in the past. There is an inclination in the world to resolve all issues that threaten stability

and peace. We are asking for our rights, and the issue is one of a just settlement. There now is unprecedented interest in it. Although we are still at the beginning of a long and arduous road, we hope that at the end a just and honorable peace, which future generations will accept and live with, will be attained. As for how this will happen, I cannot go into details, for we are a party to the talks.

[AL-HAYAH] Some say that Jordan should participate in the negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis on the arrangements for a provisional self-government in the occupied Arab territories as the future of these territories will have a great impact on Jordan. Others also say that Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations should be held in parallel with the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. What do you have to say to this?

[Husayn] Our stand is a supportive stand with all means available to us. This country supports the Palestinian brothers with respect to their rights on their national soil. There is no room for us to take their place while supporting them. No one can deny the reality that we are one family and that we have endured a great deal thus far. We are very close to one another. The issue is of interest to the Jordanians and the Palestinians. We believe that confidence is being bolstered with each passing day. Consequently, this confidence is building sound foundations for a future relationship based on the will of both the Jordanian Arab people and the Palestinian people. As for the current talks, there was no way for them to be initiated before an umbrella for the joint delegation could be provided. However, it was clear from the very beginning that there were two tracks—a Palestinian-Israeli track and a Jordanian-Israeli track, as is also the case for the other fraternal Arab countries concerned. In addition, there is the expanded conference which we have mentioned and which will deal with all of the issues stemming from the basic and principal cause, which is the primary reason for instability in the region.

[AL-HAYAH] Within the context of the possible establishment of a confederation between Jordan and the occupied Arab territories in the future, as well as the possibility of making similar arrangements with respect to the future of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, is there a principled Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on the nature of this future relationship?

[Husayn] There are no agreements as such. Otherwise, you would have heard about them.

[AL-HAYAH] It is known that Jordan was subjected to international and regional pressures during the Camp David negotiations to have it join the negotiations. It was also subjected to momentous international and regional pressure during the Gulf crisis and the Gulf war. Is Jordan now being subjected to similar pressure within the context of the current negotiations?

[Husayn] The brothers can see for themselves the pressure and the results it produced, irrespective of the causes of such pressure. Relatively speaking, the situation now, most probably, is better than what it was last year. But in practice, we are experiencing tremendous pressure from which Jordan suffers in view of its location and responsibilities. This is a tax we have always paid. God willing, we will always be ready to settle it with our heads held high.

Can anyone claim that I have ever given up one inch of Palestinian land or have relinquished any of the Palestinians' rights? We have been exerting serious efforts over the past period of time to attain rights. We have always been advocates of peace, a peace that future generations will enjoy.

Delegation Leaves for Tripoli APU Meeting

JN1401141892 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] A Jordanian Parliamentary delegation, headed by House of Representatives Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, will participate in the emergency meeting of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] due to begin in Tripoli today. The meeting will discuss accusations against Libya in connection with the crash of two U.S. and French passenger planes, as well as the dimensions of this issue on both the Arab and international levels.

The delegation left Amman this morning. It includes Senator Husni 'Ayish, House of Representative member 'Abd-al-Ra'uf al-Rawabidah, and the director of the House Speaker's Office.

Development Termed Government Priority

JN1401205692 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] The Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir said that the development process will be the preoccupation of his government.

The prime minister told the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY that the development activity, which will be pursued by the government, stems from the good performance of the Jordanian economy in coping with consequences of the Gulf crisis, although structural difficulties remain in terms of resources.

The prime minister said the framework within which the economic and social activity would move on would provide widest opportunities for initiatives and freedom to undertake investments. The prime minister indicated that the government role within this context would be organizational, supervisory, and would provide the right atmosphere to work and upgrade the infrastructure.

The prime minister underscored the administrative restructuring as an ongoing process in the advancement of the Jordanian society. The prime minister also underlined security and stability as basic elements in creating the right atmosphere for investment.

Buwayz Voices Reservations on Moscow Talks

NC1401191992 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz met with U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker and Russian Ambassador Gennadiy Ilichev at 1800 today. After the meeting, the Russian ambassador said he had conveyed an invitation to Lebanon to attend the Middle East multilateral negotiations' organizational meeting in Moscow on 28 January. Buwayz informed the U.S. and Russian ambassadors that Lebanon has reservations about participating in these talks before progress is made in the bilateral talks. Ambassador Crocker said he hopes Lebanon will attend the Moscow meetings.

Our correspondent at the Foreign Ministry reports: [Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Ambassador, apparently you have conveyed an invitation for the multilateral conference in Moscow.

[Ilichev] True. I and my colleague, the U.S. ambassador, visited his excellency the minister and delivered an invitation to Lebanon to participate in an organizational meeting in Moscow on 28 and 29 January that will prepare for the Middle East multilateral talks.

[Correspondent] Did the minister inform you of the Lebanese reservations about attending this conference?

[Ilichev] This matter is left to Lebanon and its government. I cannot comment on this issue or jump to conclusions.

[Correspondent] Did you try to persuade Lebanon to participate in these talks?

[Ilichev] No, we did not try. We merely conveyed the invitation to the Lebanon side. The Lebanese Government will make the decision.

[Correspondent] Mr. Ambassador, do you agree with what Ambassador Ilichev said?

[Crocker, in English] I would certainly agree with everything my colleague has just said. We have presented the invitation and we hope very much for a suitable response from the Lebanese side to this very important event for peace in the region.

[Correspondent] Mr. Minister, did you inform the Russian and U.S. ambassadors of the Lebanese reservations about participating in the multilateral conference?

[Buwayz] I have received from the ambassadors of Russia and the Soviet Union [as heard] an invitation to Lebanon to attend the multilateral conference. As you know, Lebanon has an unchangeable and longstanding position on this matter. We have no reservations on the principle of the multilateral talks and take into account that Lebanon has a definite position and viewpoint on any prospective regional order. We believe the multilateral conference must be held after the bilateral talks have made some tangible progress.

We are not saying that the multilateral conference cannot be held except after agreements are fully implemented. We are, however, saying that, at the very least, it is not reasonable for us to begin discussing ways of establishing a comprehensive regional order that encompasses numerous fields before attaining agreement on the restoration of legitimate Arab rights and before we ascertain that Israel will withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. Hence, I naturally will raise this issue with the Lebanese authorities and the cabinet so that we may adopt a clear position on this issue. Certainly, we will consult with friendly countries concerned with this issue, both Arab and non-Arab. But we would have liked to have seen more thought given to the date of this conference in a manner that is appropriately linked with tangible progress in the bilateral negotiations.

[Correspondent] Are we to understand that we still have reservations?

[Buwayz] Certainly, there are reservations. I am leaving it to the cabinet to discuss the appropriate conditions and to submit more accurate details on the issue. But our general approach is that while we are taking a positive stance on the principle and declared goals of the multilateral talks, we have reservations about the timing as long as the bilateral talks have not yet attained the desired point. Unless very rapid achievements are made in the next few days, I doubt that we will make concrete and swift progress by the time the multilateral talks are due to begin.

[Correspondent] Did you convey these reservations to the two ambassadors?

[Buwayz] Certainly. I informed the two ambassadors that, initially, we would have liked the date of the multilateral conference to be postponed to a date that is more suitably linked to a conviction that peace will come. I wish to add that we must put on record that the Russian Federation and the United States have made efforts. We appreciate these efforts. At the same time, we cannot adopt a stance that is not based on our national and pan-Arab interests.

[Correspondent] To what extent are these reservations linked with the positions of the other Arab countries? I mean, if the other Arab countries agree to attend the multilateral talks, what position will Lebanon adopt?

[Buwayz] We will consult with several countries and will attempt to adopt a collective stance on this issue. We will take into account that inter-Arab solidarity on any stance whatever is more important than any other consideration.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr. Minister. [end recording]

Mansur Discusses Debate on Media Restrictions

NC1401145292 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Text] Information Minister Albert Mansur told our station that he senses a misunderstanding about the

recent cabinet meeting. The cabinet examined the reorganization of the radio and television services. Current discussions, he said, are still in a preliminary phase. Mansur said that some people are opposed to the proposal granting Lebanese Television the sole right to broadcast newscasts, thereby banning the right of private television stations to report on daily events.

Mansur said that his reorganization plan does not ban private stations from covering the news. The plan, he noted, calls for reorganizing the television service in keeping with the principles of freedom.

An independent committee will be formed to ensure that certain standards are maintained in television programming and that freedom is safeguarded, Mansur continued. He added that a high-level judiciary committee will also be formed to review the decisions of the independent committee.

[Begin recording] [Mansur] If the cabinet were to endorse my plan, I would form a committee immediately. As you may know, the current law gives the information minister the responsibility of supervising the official television newscast.

I have done my best to ensure that Lebanese Television is open-minded and objective. I will not stay in office forever. I may not be able to fend off the campaigns of other officials because they are the ones who complain. That is why I want to form a committee representing all people to supervise the news. This committee will have the right to tell the station what it did a good job on and where it has come up short. This will ensure that a maximum level of objectivity is achieved during the transition period.

[Unidentified correspondent] This is what you will do if the cabinet approves the one newscast plan. But there is a possibility that this will not happen.

[Mansur] Of course. There are many proposals.

[Correspondent] What are the odds your proposal will be passed?

[Mansur] Let met tell you something: The draft law that I submitted, and on which I stand, is a legal project. It is not what people think. I support giving licenses to private broadcasting stations. I support freedom in a clear and unambiguous legal framework. In any case, I will give them.... [sentence left incomplete] They will publish the draft law that I submitted a while ago. I will have it published soon.

[Correspondent] When this is done, when a law is passed, anyone who makes a mistake will have to bear the responsibility.

[Mansur] Exactly. [end recording]

Ja'ja' on Possible Syrian Connection

NC1501050092 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Lebanese Forces [LF] Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' has said that he does not object to organizing the media. He noted, however, that the current proposal to unify the media means abolishing the media. He criticized the statements made by Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Prime Minister 'Umar Karami, and Information Minister Albert Mansur on the issue. He added that the private media are the sole outlet left to the people, noting that without this outlet, popular pressure would become violent.

Ja'ja' continued that he supports regulating the news, but said that this should not take the form of prior supervision of every news item. [passage omitted]

On the media's abuse of freedom, Dr. Ja'ja' said that banning the news on television stations under this pretext means banning the news on the radio stations next and later in the newspapers, and so forth.

Dr. Ja'ja' said his comments today are based on the fact that so far—judging by official statements made yesterday—no decision has been made to ban the news. He said that otherwise, his response would be totally different.

Dr. Ja'ja' announced four proposals:

First: Every Lebanese citizen, group, or political party has the right to own a media apparatus. This right is indivisible.

Second: A law must be passed that organizes the relationship between the media and the state.

Third: The Lebanese law on printed material must be reinterpreted so that it will become suitable for television and radio stations and a law must be issued by which these media can be held accountable.

Fourth: Every media apparatus has the right to operate freely within the bounds of the said law.

[Paris AFP in English at 1845 GMT on 14 January, in a Beirut-datelined report, says:

["Samir Ja'ja' told a news conference north of Beirut that the LF are ready to accept regulations negotiated between the Lebanese and Syrian Governments on the frequencies and broadcast power of private televisions."

["The LF, which have always sought independence from Syria, own the most powerful, best equipped and most widely viewed television station in the country, the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation (LBC). Informed sources here said Damascus was unhappy about the LBC's beefed up broadcasts with the recent installation of a relay station on one of Mount Lebanon's peaks. The

relay station has interfered with Syrian television reception in Beirut and allowed the LBC to cover part of Syria, notably the northern and northeastern regions.

["'I don't know if Syria is behind the Lebanese Government's project' barring private television channels from broadcasting newscasts, he said about the announced regulations Thursday following a visit to Beirut by Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam."]

Journalist Mustafa Jiha Killed; Assailants Escape

NC1501102992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] The journalist and writer, Mustafa Jiha, was assassinated in Beirut's al-Sabtiyah locality this morning. Four bullets hit Jiha, killing him. The assailants escaped.

Harbah, Lebanese Counterpart Sign Agreement

JN1401175792 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Damascus—Official talks between the Syrian Arab team, headed by Interior Minister Dr. Muhammad Harbah, and the Lebanese delegation, led by Lebanese Interior Minister Major General Sami al-Khatib, have been completed.

During the session, they made a comprehensive review of all issues, which had been discussed by competent committees in both countries, as well as how to carry them out in the interest of the Syrian and Lebanese peoples.

At the end of the talks, Harbah and al-Khatib signed the minutes of the meeting, which include the defense and security agreement executive program regarding areas that the two countries' interior ministries and their related bodies are interested in.

Harbah and al-Khatib then exchanged cordial speeches in which they expressed happiness over the fruitful results of these talks, and stressed the need to follow up on these results by implementing President Hafiz al-Asad's statement that we are one people in two states. Thus, we have to make this slogan a working program and apply it in the interest of both fraternal countries.

Harbah and al-Khatib also stressed the need to pursue tradition and achieve coordination, and make these part of our habits and traditions. They praised the brotherly and growing relations between the two countries in all areas. They also referred to the importance of coordinating on all levels at the next stage, when implementing the Brotherhood, Coordination, and Cooperation Treaty signed by President Hafiz al-Asad and President Ilyas al-Hirawi.

Interior Minister al-Khatib and his delegation left Damascus this afternoon after a two-day visit.

Dutch Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit

Meets With al-Shar'

JN1401172492 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Damascus, 14 Jan (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek held an official round of talks at the Foreign Ministry building this morning.

The talks were attended on the Syrian side by Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur, the director of the International Organizations Department, the director of the West European Department, and the director of the Information Department. The Dutch side comprised Christian Mark Kroner, deputy director general of political affairs; the Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman; the director of the Middle Eastern and African Department; and the Dutch ambassador in Damascus.

The talks centered on overall developments in the region. They also made an assessment of the peace process and the EC's role in supporting this process and in implementing international resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Al-Shar' referred to Israel's role in hampering peace, as well as its continued attempts to move the talks from Washington and avoid discussing substantive issues, in order to foil the peace process by isolating the factors of success.

The talks also touched on bilateral relations in particular, and relations between Syria and the EC in general, as well as the possibility of promoting relations in the interest of both sides.

Further on Talks

LD1401151192 Hilversum Radio Netherlands in English 1430 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] In the Syrian capital, Damascus, the Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek has had a first round of talks with his Syrian counterpart, Faruq al-Shar'. In their talks about the prospects for peace in the Middle East, the two men discussed the possibility of involving the European Community in the peace process. Foreign Minister al-Shar' called on the United States and the international community to play a more active role in promoting peace in the region.

From Syria, Mr. Van den Broek will travel on to Jordan and Israel. In Jerusalem he will also meet a delegation of Palestinian representatives.

Received by AL-Asad

JN1401193892 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] At 1700 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek and the delegation accompanying him.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Dutch ambassador in Damascus Josephus Franciscus Roelf Maria Veling.

The talks dealt with the regional situation and the ongoing peace process. Hans van den Broek stated that Europe takes an interest in the peace process. He added that the Syrian role in this process is important because Syria has weight and leverage that affects this process and its continuation, as well as its success.

His excellency the president affirmed Syria's unmistakably clear desire to attain a just and comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy and resolutions. He affirmed that it is important for the EC and all parties concerned with peace in the region to overcome the obstacles that the Israeli side places in the path of the peace process.

Afghanistan

Iran Airlifts Relief Supplies to Kabul

BK1201114292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1131 GMT 12 Jan 92

[Report by Anosh Ahamath]

[Text] Kabul, Jan 12 (AFP)—The Iranian Government has carried out an unprecedented airlift of relief supplies to the Afghan capital, Kabul, weeks after Tehran launched a similar mercy mission to hunger-stricken Shiite Moslems.

Iranian Embassy sources confirmed that two plane-loads of relief goods were flown here Thursday for distribution to "the poor of Kabul." "Two flights came from our country to Kabul on Thursday. Iran has undertaken this mission for humanitarian reasons to help the poor people during winter," an embassy source said here. He added however that he could not confirm reports that more relief supplies were to be flown in later in the week.

A leading merchant who does trade with Iran said the two planes brought mainly food and winter clothing and had left Friday after an overnight stay.

The Kabul government made no announcement of the arrival of the Iranian relief goods, but last week Farid Mazdak, deputy chairman of the ruling Watan (Homeland) party, said Kabul was negotiating with Tehran for direct supplies.

In December the Iranian administration broke a freeze on assistance to the Kabul regime when it air-dropped tonnes of relief supplies in central Afghanistan to help thousands of Shiite Moslems overcome severe food shortages.

A spokesman for the country's Shiite Moslems said some 50,000 people had already fled the stricken Hazarehjat region, which covers five central provinces, to neighbouring Iran and Pakistan in search of food. Spring floods, a wheat fungus epidemic and an early winter frost had destroyed the wheat crop in the region.

Diplomats here however described the relief operation to Kabul as "more than humanitarian." "By sending supplies direct to Kabul, Iran has clearly shown on which side of the fence it stands. Iran has also made certain that it now cannot be made a back-bencher in current international efforts to bring a peace settlement to Afghanistan," said an Asian diplomat. Diplomatic sources also said Kabul was currently negotiating with Tehran for the purchase of petrol, which is in short supply.

Snow-bound Kabul has been faced with severe fuel shortages and the problem has been aggravated following the implementation January 1 of an agreement between Moscow and Washington to stop arms supplies and fuel for military use to both the Kabul regime and the Afghan resistance.

Another senior diplomat said that the fact that the Iranian planes made an overnight stay showed Tehran's confidence in the Kabul regime. "Mercy missions are quick operations. The overnight stay means confidence," he said.

*Shiites Want Role in Political Settlement

92AS0418A Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Dec 91 p 6

[Article by Jean-Pierre Clerc: "Shiites Want Their Voices To Be Heard"]

[Text] General Rutskoy, vice president of Russia, was expected to arrive in Pakistan on Thursday, 19 December, following his visit to Tehran. The general's next stop will be Kabul, where his objectives are to secure the release of Soviet soldiers held prisoner by the mojahedin and to promote a political solution in Afghanistan. The parties to the conflict are looking more and more toward a negotiated settlement. Invited to attend the PS [French Socialist Party] Congress as an observer, Mr. Abdulhaq Shafaq, spokesman for the Islamic Unity Party representing several million Afghan Shiites, said his coreligionists want a larger voice.

Mr. Shafaq—bearded like all good Afghan Muslims—lacks the mongoloid features characteristic of the Hazara mountain people of the Hindu Kush who are often lumped together with Afghanistan's Shiites. The young spokesman of the "Hezb-e-Wahdat-e-Islami" fails to fit the popular stereotype of his coreligionists: He is from northern Afghanistan, not the center; and he is Tajik, not Hazara. "Few Westerners know that the nine Shiite factions united in 1989, or realize—despite what is often said—that their headquarters is in Afghanistan, not Tehran, where they have only one large group," he explained.

But becoming better known in the West is not the most pressing concern for Shiites warring against Kabul. Getting the other mojahedin to accept them for what they are is an equally hard struggle: "With regard to the representative bodies of the future Islamic Afghanistan, we are asking for participation proportionate to our demographic weight, which is about one-fourth of the population.[1] The Sunnis are offering us only 10 percent. Fortunately, only three of the seven Peshawar parties take that rigid position."[2]

'No Compromise'

The creation, in Pakistan in early December, of a Holy War Command Council—a provisional government that claims to be more representative than the one formed in 1989, although it incorporates no more Shiites than its predecessor—is no comfort to Mr. Shafaq.

The Hezb-e-Wahdat militants are evidently close to Tehran, given their geographic proximity to Shiite Iran and their own isolation as a minority Muslim faction. Indeed, their neighbor—which "went revolutionary" in

1978, the year Afghanistan rose up against "its" communists—has never neglected them: It has accepted 2 million refugees and provided unstinting military, political, and humanitarian assistance.

In late November a Hercules C-130 with Red Crescent markings dropped food and medicine into the central province of Bamyan, which has been under Shiite control since 1988. As a result of flooding, which in some localities destroyed 80 percent of the harvest, scarcity is everywhere and starvation looms. "That must not be viewed as interference. We appealed on all sides for help; Tehran responded immediately. But any additional aid would also be welcome...."

Kabul gave its authorization for the overflight of that foreign aircraft. Might this not have been a courteous way to "reward" the Shiites, who are sometimes seen as less hostile than fundamentalist Sunnis to a dialogue with the Najibullah regime about Afghanistan's future? "For us, Najibullah is the man responsible for all the people's misery. No compromise is possible with him. Our position is clear: We want an Islamic, independent, and nonaligned government that respects the political and religious uniqueness of the Shiite peoples, who have been living in Afghanistan for many centuries," Mr. Shafaq replies.

Footnotes

1. According to "Afghanologists," the country has about 2.5 million Shiites, equal to 15 percent of the population.

2. These are the three "hard-line" fundamentalist factions: the Hezb, its dissidents, and the Ettehad.

Iran

Algerian Muslims Urged to Seize Opportunities

LD1401192992 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1605 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] From the current events in Algeria and the news coming out of that country, it can be deduced that the critical moments and irretrievable opportunities have made the political climate of the cities of Algeria unbearable and despondent. After a period of relative freedom, this climate has apparently ended everything and put a halt to the constructive trend. Therefore, it is natural that under such conditions political circles will talk of the possibility of passing from political moves to armed action in their forecasts, or speak of passing from peaceful means to an extensive popular revolution.

Of course, following this path with its many ups and downs has been thought about. Algerian Muslims and government officials have been thinking about this. When the Algerian authorities opened the democratic door to allow freedom of activity for Islamic parties after a series of popular uprisings, they accepted this point of view: One cannot resort to violent and oppressive means in order to suppress a popular revolution. In response, during the past three years, despite severe pressure and many provocations, Algerian Muslims have concentrated all their efforts to insure that, during the political struggle, reformist trends do not lead to violence. Now, however, following Chadli Bendjedid's resignation, the scenario has changed.

The important questions are these: What is the solution to the present complicated crisis in Algeria? How can tranquillity be restored to that country? Of course, political experts believe that those in positions of power today have not come to the arena armed only with weak internal support. They have the extensive and all-encompassing support of Western propaganda machinery. Western media, who only yesterday apparently supported democracy and the peoples' vote in all corners of the world, are openly and seriously engaged in propaganda against the wishes of the majority of the Muslim people of Algeria in this new scenario, thereby setting aside the wishes of the majority. They are even inviting the system to some sort of violent confrontation.

In any case, the outcome of halting or delaying democratic reform is not clear. Nor is the response of the Algerian Muslims to the increasing pressure. Meanwhile, it seems that Algerian pan-Islamists understand the current critical conditions and are well aware of this fact: The existing opportunities will not be repeated, opportunities that could enable them to mobilize millions of Algerian Muslims if properly used.

It is obvious that the current phase of transformation must end and that the present crisis must give way to stability and calm. According to political experts, this is only possible when democratic and free elections are finally held in Algeria; elections that will be beneficial to the people of Algeria if they are held sooner.

West's Reaction to Algerian Events Monitored

NC1401195092 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Radio commentary]

[Excerpts] The future of Algeria is still vague days after the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid. The deployment of Army units and tanks in sensitive areas in the Algerian capital and the declaration of a state of emergency by the committee managing the country prove that the political situation is deteriorating. The crisis that erupted after the Algerian Supreme Security Committee canceled the second round of parliamentary elections has provoked various reactions. [passage omitted]

Following the declaration of the results of the first round of the elections, Western media focused on casting doubt on the elections, their results, and their future. The Western propaganda campaign, which aimed at undermining the will of the heroic Muslim Algerian people, highlighted the fact that the West has a dual view of

democracy. This view simply demonstrates that the West bases parliamentary democracy on what suits its international capitalist interests. The West's rejection of the success of the Islamic Salvation Front by parliamentary democratic means stems from the fact that this success will not ensure the West's illegitimate international interests.

In view of such a sensitive situation, the Algerian people and government are facing a difficult, fateful option. The eyes are now focused on the Algerian people and their deep, long and bitter experiences, which enable them to overcome this dangerous phase with wisdom and farsightedness in order to achieve their Islamic aspirations and sublime goal of justice.

VOA Accused of Distorting Habibi Remarks

LD1401145392 Tehran IRNA in English 1255 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 14, IRNA—The Voice of America (VOA) in its various news bulletins Monday night distorted the remarks made by Iran's First Vice President and government spokesman Hasan Habibi on the recent developments in Algeria.

The VOA, misquoting IRNA, said that Habibi in his Monday's news conference had called on the Algerian people to ignore official instructions of the State Security Council following President Chadli Bendjedid's resignation.

In fact Habibi criticized attempts by the mass media of those countries which claimed to advocate freedom and democracy, in distorting the popular movement in Algeria.

He said: "Obviously, the people of a country who have an impressive anti-colonialist record would never accept administration of their state by force."

The VOA, in its English news broadcast monitored here Tuesday morning, also distorted Habibi's remarks.

The move by the VOA has been taken with the sole objective to deviate the world public opinion to serve U.S. interests.

Apparently, recent events in Algeria and the West's concern over these developments is the main reason behind VOA's distortion of Habibi's remarks.

Islamic 'Awakening' Termed Threat to U.S. Plans

LD1401144192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1103 GMT 14 Jan 92

[Station commentary: "The New Round of Washington Talks"]

[Excerpts] It appears that the new round of peace talks currently taking place in Washington will fail to reach any conclusive results. Avoidance of the main issues and the manner of negotiations between the Jordanian, Palestinian, and Israeli delegations brought the previous round of Washington talks to a deadlock. [passage omitted]

In the opinion of many regional analysts, the objective of the United States and Israel in the Washington talks is to continue the trend of the previous talks aimed at thawing the frozen relations between the parties involved and Israel, instead of finding a solution to the Middle East crisis. For this reason, the Zionist regime is trying to avoid a discussion on the main issues and transfer the real talks to the Middle East or a region close to it.

In the opinion of these analysts, another objective of the occupying Zionist regime is to extend the talks to next month, to coincide with the American Government's resumption of talks on the granting of a $10 billion bank credit to Israel. At the same time, another objective of the Zionist regime is to lessen the importance of the current talks and increase the importance of Moscow talks, in which regional issues such as arms, water resources, economic cooperation, and more will be discussed.

A number of Arab governments, including Syria and Palestine, have reiterated their opposition to the Moscow talks unless provided with an assurance of Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, persistant on the need for coordination among the Arab governments. However, some Arab governments such as Jordan consider the multilateral Moscow talks more important than bilateral talks, hastening to participate in them. [passage omitted]

The real objective of the United States and Israel in these talks, which they call peace talks, is to gradually impose Israel on not only the governments but also on the peoples of the region, as an indisputable reality. With the conclusion of the Cold War and the advent of new economic powers in the world, the next war will be an economic war. Since the economy of the Middle East, especially its oil resources, is of vital significance to the United States, Washington endeavors to resolve this region's crisis by means compatible with its interests. In the United States' view, this solution—or at least its principles—will be laid at the Moscow session. The merging of the Zionist regime in the region's economy, politics, and culture, in the United States' view is the best solution, one that is catalytic in presenting the regime with an extensive market for its commodities, thus transforming it into the region's economic superpower.

Perhaps at the end of the road the United States may reach its objectives with these governments, but there is no doubt in the incompatibility of the wishes of these governments with the aspirations of the people of the region. The Islamic awakening and the possibility of the rise to power of Islamic factions in the regional countries is the biggest threat to the United States' plans.

Nepal & Bhutan

King Comments on Political Issues in Interview

BK0901132892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1316 GMT 9 Jan 92

[Text] Kathmandu, Jan 9 (AFP)—Nepal's King Birendra has broken a two-year silence which analysts here believe could signal his willingness to take steps to reclaim his former powers in the event of the elected government collapsing.

In a wide-ranging interview with the local English weekly THE INDEPENDENT, the Harvard and Eton educated king, 47, addressed the changes Nepal has undergone since popular demonstrations in 1990 which left 500 people dead led to its transformation from monarchical rule to multi-party democracy.

Analysts said the king broke his two-year silence in order to show the nation he was not cut off from the mainstream of Nepal's political life.

They also said that as the interview came at a time when murder and outbreaks of violence were becoming increasingly commonplace across Nepal, it could be part of a bigger plan by the king and his followers to be ready to assert power in the event of the failure of the elected government.

Assessing the 1990 agitation and demonstrations which led to Nepal's transformation from a consitutional monarchy to a multi-party democracy, the king said, "The desire for a change was much more in the nature of Nepal's joining the international trend for multi-party democracy.

"This would have been the decisive factor regardless of the strength and weakness of the previous system."

"Unforeseen economic factors and the question of political change within Nepalese society coincided with changes in the international arena which were unprecedented in recent history and monumental in scope and magnitude," he added.

He said the constitution would be strengthened if all political parties and the main elements in society worked togther sincerely in a democratic spirit.

On Tibet, King Birendra said, "interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign country should be resisted," adding the situation there could not be compared to the now independent Baltic republics.

Commenting on Nepal's relations with India, the king said, "It is in the best interest of Nepal to strengthen relations with India while maintaining its identity, independence and sovereignty."

Communists Criticize King's Remarks

BK1201003292 Hong Kong AFP in English 2016 GMT 11 Jan 92

[Text] Kathmandu, Jan 11 (AFP)—A Nepal Communist Party (United Marxist and Leninist) leader has criticized recent comments by King Birendra, warning him that Nepal could achieve democracy without him, party sources said.

NCP (UML) General Secretary Madan Bhandari expressed resentment Friday over Birendra's comments in "THE INDEPENDENT" magazine, in which he spoke of his desire for peace in Nepal and his concern about the precious legacy of independence that had been handed down to the crown.

"All political parties and responsible elements of society must adhere to democratic norms within the spirit of the Constitution," he said.

The king's remarks were seen as a veiled attack on Nepal's communists for obstructing the smooth functioning of the Nepali Congress government.

"The king should remain in his rightful place in dignity and he should not move either to the right or to the left," Bhandari told a NCP (UML) campaign meeting for upcoming by-elections.

Bhandari said a king should not "get involved in politics" and that if he intended to do so, then "first he should abdicate his throne."

He warned the king not to lead the democratic system astray, because doing so would bring a new "revolution" and the establishment of a democratic system "without the crown."

Analysts here believe King Birendra's comments, which broke a two-year silence on political issues, indicate an effort to reestablish his power and show he is not cut off mainstream politics, in the event of the downfall of the elected government.

The February 9 by-elections follow the resignations of Bhandari and Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala from second seats won in the May 1991 general election, in accordance with the Constitution.

The 1991 election, following the collapse of Nepal's partyless panchayat system, was Nepal's first free election for 32 years.